

Notice of Meeting:

I hereby give notice that an ordinary Meeting of the Environment Committee will be held on:

Date: Tuesday 2 August 2022

Time: 9.30am

Meeting Room: Council Chamber

Venue: Municipal Building, Garden Place, Hamilton

Lance Vervoort Chief Executive

Environment Committee Komiti Taiao OPEN AGENDA

Membership

Chairperson Cr Gallagher

Heamana

Deputy Chairperson Cr S Thomson

Heamana Tuarua

Members Cr A O'Leary

Cr K Naidoo-Rauf Cr D Macpherson Cr M Donovan

Mayor P Southgate (Ex Officio) Maangai Maaori – N Hill

Quorum: A majority of members (including vacancies)

Meeting Frequency: Six weekly

Amy Viggers Mana Whakahaere Governance

25 July 2022

Telephone: 07 838 6727 Amy.Viggers@hcc.govt.nz www.hamilton.govt.nz

Purpose

The Environment Committee is responsible for:

1. Governance of strategies, policies and plans relating to the wellbeing, protection, enhancement and sustainability of Hamilton's natural environment.

In addition to the common delegations, the Environment Committee is delegated the following Terms of Reference and powers:

Terms of Reference:

- 1. To develop policy, approve strategies and plans concerning Hamilton's contribution and response to climate change, and to monitor their implementation.
- 2. To develop policy, approve strategies and plans for the sustainable use of Hamilton's natural resources, and to monitor their implementation.
- 3. To develop policy, approve strategies and plans for efficient and sustainable waste management and recycling, and to monitor their implementation.
- 4. To develop policy, approve strategies and plans for Council's corporate environmental sustainability and to monitor their implementation.
- 5. To develop policy, approve strategies and plans for Council's biodiversity, and to monitor their implementation.
- 6. To develop policy, approve and monitor implementation of strategies in relation to the Climate Action Plan.

Special Notes:

The Committee may request expert external advice through the Chief Executive as necessary.

The Committee is delegated the following powers to act:

Approval of matters determined by the Committee within its Terms of Reference.

The Committee is delegated the following recommendatory powers:

• The Committee may make recommendations to Council.

The Committee may make recommendations to other Committees.

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1 Apologies – Tono aroha

2 Confirmation of Agenda – Whakatau raarangi take

The Committee to confirm the agenda.

3 Declaration of Interest – Tauaakii whaipaanga

Members are reminded of the need to be vigilant to stand aside from decision making when a conflict arises between their role as an elected representative and any private or other external interest they might have.

4 Public Forum – Aatea koorero

As per Hamilton City Council's Standing Orders, a period of up to 30 minutes has been set aside for a public forum. Each speaker during the public forum section of this meeting may speak for five minutes or longer at the discretion of the Chair.

Please note that the public forum is to be confined to those items falling within the terms of the reference of this meeting.

Speakers will be put on a Public Forum speaking list on a first come first served basis in the Council Chamber prior to the start of the Meeting. A member of the Council Governance Team will be available to co-ordinate this. As many speakers as possible will be heard within the allocated time.

If you have any questions regarding Public Forum please contact Governance by telephoning 07 838 6727.

Council Report

Committee: Environment Committee **Date:** 02 August 2022

Author: Carmen Fookes **Authoriser:** Michelle Hawthorne

Position: Senior Governance Advisor **Position:** Governance and Assurance

Manager

Report Name: Confirmation of the Open Environment Committee Minutes - 10 May

2022

Report Status	Open
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Staff Recommendation - Tuutohu-aa-kaimahi

That the Environment Committee confirm the open Minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 10 May 2022 as a true and correct record.

Attachments - Ngaa taapirihanga

Attachment 1 - Environment Committee Unconfirmed Open Minutes - 10 May 2022 .



Environment Committee Komiti Taiao OPEN MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Environment Committee held in Council Chamber, Municipal Building, Garden Place, Hamilton and via Audio Visual link on Tuesday 10 May 2022 at 9.32am.

PRESENT

Chairperson Cr M Gallagher

Heamana

Deputy Chairperson Cr S Thomson

Heamana Tuarua

Members Mayor P Southgate

Cr A O'Leary (exclusively via Audio Visual link)

Cr D Macpherson Cr M Donovan

Maangai N Hill (exclusively via Audio Visual link)

In Attendance Cr M van Oosten

Lance Vervoort – Chief Executive

Sean Hickey - General Manager Strategy and Communication

Eeva-Liisa Wright – General Manager Infrastructure

Julie Clausen - Unit Manager Strategy and Corporate Planning Poppy Barran - Sustainability and Climate Change Advisor

Trent Fowles - Compliance Manager

Kirsty Quickfall - Resource Recovery Advisor

Deputy Mayor Aksel Bech and Cr Jennifer Nickel - Waikato Regional Council

Governance Team Carmen Fookes – Senior Governance Advisor

Tyler Gaukrodger – Governance Advisor Chantel Jansen – Governance Officer

Cr Thomson opened the meeting with Karakia

1. Apologies – Tono aroha

Resolved: (Cr Gallagher/Cr Macpherson)

That the apologies for absence from Cr Naidoo-Rauf were accepted.

2. Confirmation of Agenda – Whakatau raarangi take

Resolved: (Cr Gallagher/Cr Thomson)

That the agenda is confirmed.

3. Declarations of Interest – Tauaakii whaipaanga

No members of the Council declared a Conflict of Interest.

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4. Public Forum – Aatea koorero

No members of the public wished to speak.

5. Confirmation of the Environment Committee Open Minutes - 22 February 2022

Resolved: (Cr Gallagher/Cr Thomson)

That the Environment Committee confirm the Open Minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 22 February 2022 as a true and correct record.

6. Chair's Report

The Chair and Mayor Southgate congratulated Dr Beverley Clarkson for receiving the Loder Cup conservation award for their research on mature native habitats for native birds. The Chair and Deputy Chair spoke to their recommendation, noting progress made to date in the environment space, reductions in emissions, Covid-19 challenges, and next steps in climate action. Along with staff, they responded to questions from Members concerning environmental objectives for the wider city, collaboration with central government, central government funding for the environment programme, resourcing the implementation of the climate change policy, environmental considerations in the District Plan, mode shift objectives, creating walkable neighbourhoods, and matairangi Maaori considerations.

Resolved: (Cr Thomson/Cr Gallagher)

That the Environment Committee:

- a) receives the report;
- b) notes that we require an urgent and significant step change in the scale and speed at which we are responding to climate change;
- c) requests staff to prepare options for funding climate change initiatives in the 2023/24 annual plan, including a targeted rate and 'better off' funding;
- d) requests the CE to report back to this committee with a plan for;
 - i) building the organisation's capacity over the next year to deliver on the climate strategy, policy and action plan, including any resourcing required;
 - ii) seeking partnership and co-funding opportunities; and
- e) requests staff prepare proposals for the 2024-34 Long Term Plan that align with the targets that are approved by Elected Members in the climate strategy/action plan

Cr O'Leary left the meeting (10.00am) during the discussion of the above item. She was not present when the matter was voted on.

Mayor Southgate left the meeting (10.18am) during the discussion of the above item. She was not present when the matter was voted on.

7. Waikato Regional Council Verbal Updates

Waikato Regional Council's Deputy Mayor Aksel Bech and Cr Jennifer Nickel provided members with an updated on the Waikato Plan purpose, priority workstreams, energy demand management, the timeline to decrease emissions, and steps private businesses are taking to decrease emissions. They responded to questions from Members concerning alignment of climate objectives between local councils, communication of the Land Transport Plan to the public, public support to invest in micro modal transport, collaboration with matairangi Maaori, and education for future generations.

Resolved: (Cr Gallagher/Mayor Southgate)

That the Environment Committee receives the report.

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Environment Committee 10 MAY 2022 - OPEN

Cr O'Leary re-joined the meeting (10.26am) during the discussion of the above item. She was present when the matter was voted on.

Mayor Southgate re-joined the meeting (10.40am) during the discussion of the above item. She was present when the matter was voted on.

Cr Donovan left the meeting (10.52am) during the discussion of the above item. He was not present when the matter was voted on.

The meeting was adjourned from 11.00am to 11.14am.

8. Update on 2021/22 Climate Change Action Plan

The Unit Manager Strategy and Corporate Planning and Sustainability and Climate Change Advisor introduced the report, noting the format of the report, inconsistencies in previous reports, and Council energy usage. They responded to questions from Members concerning rubbish collection during Covid-19 lockdowns, educating the public on waste separation and minimization, and future updates to the committee.

Resolved: (Cr Thomson/Cr Gallagher)

That the Environment Committee receives the report.

Cr Donovan re-joined the meeting (11.19am) during the discussion of the above item. He was present when the matter was voted on.

9. Update on the 2018-2024 Waste Management and Minimisation Plan

The Compliance Manager and Resource Recovery Advisor took the report as read. They responded to questions from Members concerning retirement village recycling usage, alternative rubbish collection options during Covid-19 lockdowns, increasing food waste levels of service and usage, early childhood centre waste, and waste minimization.

Staff Action: Staff undertook to provide Members with information concerning recycling and food waste service usage at retirement villages.

Resolved: (Cr Gallagher/Cr Macpherson)

That the Environment Committee receives the report.

10. General Manager's Report

The General Manager Strategy and Communication spoke to the updated staff recommendation. He responded to questions from Members on providing Council climate change programme information to the public.

Resolved: (Cr Gallagher/Cr Donovan)

That the Environment Committee:

- a) receives the report; and
- b) delegates the Chair and Deputy Chair of Environment Committee and General Manager Strategy and Communication to develop and finalise a submission to the National Adaptation Plan.

The meeting was declared Closed at 12.10pm.

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Council Report

Committee: Environment Committee **Date:** 02 August 2022

Author: Carmen Fortin **Authoriser:** Michelle Hawthorne

Position: Senior Governance Advisor **Position:** Governance and Assurance

Manager

Report Name: Chair's Report

Report Status	Open

Recommendation

That the Environment Committee receives the report.

Attachments

Attachment 1 - Chair's Report



Chair's Report

Climate Strategy

The Environment committee will be finally reviewing our climate future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa along with the next steps to our climate future – our plan for 2022-2023 This is HCC's vision for our city, as a thriving, low carbon city, which responds and adapts to climate change. We acknowledge the hard work of our small and dedicated staff team in developing our climate strategy document for the committee's consideration, before proceeding to full council for adoption. We note the significant feedback to date from members of the committee and key community stakeholders, which has been of assistance and great value.

Role of the Environment Committee

Under the leadership of the Mayor, Paula Southgate, we commend council for including the vital role and oversight of the Environment Committee, as a key component of our overall Governance structure. Given the climate change and environment issues facing Hamilton – Kiririkiroa, (subject to the usual democratic decision-making process by the incoming council), it is envisaged that the Environment Committee will continue to have a key and enhanced role in the governance structure. In a sense its "audit" role is not dissimilar to the Audit and Risk Committee.

Late Items

Verbal update to be provided if required.

Chair's Recommendation

That the Environment Committee received the report.

Cr Martin Gallagher Chair Cr Sarah Thomson Deputy Chair

Council Report

Committee: Environment Committee **Date:** 02 August 2022

Author: Poppy Barran **Authoriser:** Sean Hickey

Position: Sustainability and Climate **Position:** General Manager Strategy

Change Advisor and Communications

Report Name: Update on 2021/22 Climate Change Action Plan

Report Status	Open
ricport status	Open

Purpose - *Take*

1. To inform the Environment Committee on the delivery of the 2021/22 Climate Change Action Plan.

Staff Recommendation - Tuutohu-aa-kaimahi

2. That the Environment Committee receives the report.

Executive Summary - Whakaraapopototanga matua

- 3. The 2021/22 Climate Change Action Plan was approved at the 26 August 2021 Environment Committee meeting, with a subsequent amendment at the 30 November 2021 Environment Committee meeting.
- 4. Throughout 2021/22 staff have provided quarterly updates on the delivery of this plan, as per the Environment Committee Forward Work Programme approved at the 26 August 2021 Environment Committee meeting.
- 5. The fourth and final Monitoring Report for the 2021/22 Climate Change Action Plan can be seen in **Attachment 1** and shows that most actions are on track, with seven out of 45 actions requiring additional monitoring or have had timing adjustments, and five actions completed.
- 6. An End of Year Report for the 2021/22 Climate Change Action Plan has also been provided to summarise key highlights from the 2021/22 Climate Change Action Plan, Council's operational emissions profile for 2021/22, and how these emissions have changed since the 2018/19 baseline. This report can be seen in **Attachment 2**.
- 7. It is noted that some emissions data is unavailable at the time of writing so estimates for the most recent data have been used where necessary. Emissions from working from home have been excluded from the 2021/22 emissions profile because we do not have accurate data to measure this. Our baseline data from 2018/19 did not include measuring 'working from home' as an emissions source (because this was not a prominent feature in our way of working at that time), so comparisons with baseline are still applicable.
- 8. In 2021/22, Council generated approximately 9,776tCO2e of non-biogenic emissions, which is an 11% reduction from emissions compared to 2018/19 baseline.

- 9. We do not measure biogenic emissions each year so have instead estimated these emissions by looking at the percentage change in wastewater treated for the year. Biogenic emissions for 2021/22 are approximately 12,136tCO2e, which is a 9% increase from the 2018/19 baseline.
- 10. The increase in biogenic emissions is due to population change and the associated wastewater flows through the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The key project to deliver these emissions reduction is on track and expected to be delivered in 2024/25 2025/26.
- 11. Staff consider the matters in this report have low significance and that the recommendations comply with Council's legal requirement.

Background - Koorero whaimaarama

- 12. On 10 September 2020, the Environment Committee approved the first Climate Change Action Plan for the 2020/21 period. In the 2020/21 Climate Change Action Plan, Council set two emissions reduction targets for our operational emissions and outlined actions to support emissions reduction and adaptation across the city.
- 13. The 2020/21 Climate Change Action Plan outlined that we would measure Council's non-biogenic emissions each year.
- 14. On 1 June 2021 staff presented a final report to the Environment Committee of the actions delivered in the 2020/21 Action Plan.
- 15. Staff presented the updated Action Plan for the 2021/22 financial year to the Environment Committee on 26 August 2021. The report was approved subject to an additional section being included in the Action Plan regarding the targets, actions, and timing for emissions reduction. At the same Committee meeting a forward work programme was approved for the Environment Committee, which included a quarterly monitoring report on the delivery of the 2021/22 Action Plan.
- 16. The additional section to the Action Plan was added to the 2021/22 Action Plan and presented at the 30 November 2021 Environment Committee meeting, along with the first quarterly Monitoring Report for the 2021/22 Action Plan.
- 17. At the 30 November 2021 Environment Committee meeting, staff were asked to include information on biogenic emissions in the next Monitoring Report of the 2021/22 Action Plan.
- 18. The second quarterly Monitoring Report was provided at the 22 February 2022 Environment Committee meeting. The third Monitoring Report was provided at the 10 May 2022 Environment Committee meeting.
- 19. The fourth and final Monitoring Report for the 2021/22 Climate Change Action Plan can be seen in **Attachment 1.**
- 20. An End of Year Report for the 2021/22 Climate Change Action Plan is provided in **Attachment 2**, which provides key highlights of the 2021/22 Action Plan and information on Council's operational emissions for 2021/22.

Discussion – *Matapaki*

Monitoring of the 2021/22 Climate Change Action Plan

- 21. The fourth and final quarterly update for the 2021/22 Climate Change Action Plan is provided in **Attachment 1.**
- 22. This report (**Attachment 1**) shows that most shows that most of the 45 actions are on track. Many of the items are ongoing so will continue into the next financial year. Five actions have been completed and seven require additional monitoring or have had timing adjustments.

Council's emissions profile for 2021/22

- 23. Hamilton City Council's non-biogenic emissions profile for 2021/22 has been calculated, noting that some data is unavailable at the time of writing and so estimates for the most recent data have been used where necessary. This includes emissions data for the following sources:
 - i. Fertiliser Data not currently available so we have used 2020/21 data
 - ii. Cattle Data not currently available so we have used 2020/21 data
 - iii. Natural gas June 2022 data not available so this has been estimated
 - iv. Electricity June 2022 data not available so this has been estimated
- 24. Emissions from working from home have been excluded from the 2021/22 emissions profile as we have continued to see changes in the way we work due to COVID-19 impacts, but do not currently have enough accurate data of work from home trends across the organisation to measure these emissions. We need better data to measure this more accurately going forward.
- 25. The 2018/19 baseline emissions profile did not include emissions from working from home because this was not a prominent feature in our way working at that time. Estimates of these emissions were included in the 2019/20 and 2020/21 emissions profile to reflect the impacts of COVID-19 restrictions.
- 26. For consistency with comparisons, emissions from working from home have been excluded from the 2019/20 and 2020/21 emissions profiles presented in **Attachment 2**.
- 27. All other data (for diesel, petrol, LPG, air travel, hotel stays, rental cars, waste to landfill, biosolids to vermicomposting, and bio-solids transport) for the 2021/22 emissions profile is available and actual figures have been used.
- 28. In 2021/22, Council generated approximately 9,776tCO2e of non-biogenic emissions. This is an 11% reduction from emissions compared to 2018/19 baseline.
- 29. In comparison, in 2019/20 we saw a drop in our emissions of 4.5% from baseline, and in 2020/21 our corporate emissions increased meaning that we saw a drop of only 1% compared to baseline.
- 30. Further comparisons and overview of changes in each emissions sector can be found in **Attachment 2**.
- 31. By looking at the percentage change in wastewater treated for 2021/22, we estimate Council's biogenic emissions for 2021/22 to be approximately 12,136tCO2e, which is a 9% increase from the 2018/19 baseline.

Financial Considerations - Whaiwhakaaro Puutea

32. This is a regular operating activity funded through the Long Term Plan.

Legal and Policy Considerations - Whaiwhakaaro-aa-ture

33. Staff confirm that the staff recommendation complies with the Council's legal and policy requirements.

Wellbeing Considerations - Whaiwhakaaro-aa-oranga tonutanga

- 34. The purpose of Local Government changed on the 14 May 2019 to include promotion of the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of communities in the present and for the future ('the 4 wellbeings').
- 35. The subject matter of this report has been evaluated in terms of the 4 wellbeings during the process of developing this report as outlined below.

36. The recommendations set out in this report are consistent with that purpose.

Social

Climate change has the potential to reduce our community's social wellbeing, especially our more vulnerable community members. Actions delivered in the 2021/22 (such as development of the Climate Change Strategy) have supported Council to identify these risks and minimise them, to enhance social wellbeing. There are also many community members concerned about climate change and the impacts. By communicating the action Council is taking, the community can see that the Council is playing its part in responding to climate change. **Economic**

38. In delivering the 2021/22 Climate Change Action Plan we are continuing to support the transition to a low carbon economy in Hamilton, for example through research completed for the Climate Change Strategy and through engagement with the Climate Accord. As we gain a better understanding of the potential economic risks and opportunities facing the city, we can collaborate with others to address them.

Environmental

39. Through delivery of actions in the 2021/22 Climate Change Action Plan we have continued to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and build our resilience. This includes reducing the Council's operating emissions and enabling others to reduce emissions through actions like improved cycleways and public transport.

Cultural

The long-term impacts of climate change may have impacts on the cultural wellbeing of our community, for example if values and customs are unable to be undertaken. In the delivery of actions in the 2021/22 Action Plan, we have collaborated with others to better understand these future risks and to build these considerations into long term decisions. **Risks** - **Tuuraru**

41. There are no known risks associated with the decisions required for this matter.

Significance & Engagement Policy - *Kaupapa here whakahira/anganui* Significance

42. Staff have considered the key considerations under the Significance and Engagement Policy and have assessed that the recommendation(s) in this report has/have a low level of significance.

Engagement

- 43. Community views and preferences are already known to the Council through previous engagements, including consultation on the Long-Term Plan. Additional engagement on the implementation of specific projects will occur on a case-by-case basis.
- 44. Given the low level of significance determined, the engagement level is low. No engagement is required.

Attachments - Ngaa taapirihanga

Attachment 1 - 2021/22 Climate Change Action Plan – Monitoring Report July 2022

Attachment 2 - 2021/22 Climate Change Action Plan – End of Year Report and Council Emissions Update

2021/22 Climate Change Action Plan – Monitoring Report **July 2022**

Our climate chan	Our climate change response				
Action	Description	Update	Status		
Climate Change and Environment Policy	We are developing a Climate Change and Environment Policy, which will ensure that climate change is embedded in our decision-making process across Council.	Council voted unanimously to approve the Climate Change Policy at the 30 June Council meeting. Staff are now working through the impact assessment documentation and guidance to support the organisation in ongoing implementation of the policy. Further information on the Climate Change Policy can be found on the Council website.	Complete		
Climate Change Strategy	We are developing our Climate Change Strategy, which will outline our vision for Kirikiriroa Hamilton in 2050 and how we will transition to a low carbon, resilient city.	Feedback has been incorporated into the final version of the climate change strategy, Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa, which is being presented to the Environment Committee at the 2 August committee meeting. This strategy was deferred from 30 June Council meeting to 2 August Environment Committee meeting, so that the document could be endorsed by the Environment Committee before going to Council for approval at the 18 August Council meeting.	Timelines delayed		
Climate Change Strategy Implementation Plan	This plan will be developed following adoption of the Climate Change Strategy.	Next Steps for Our Climate Future – Our 2022/23 Plan has been developed and will be provided alongside the strategy at the 2 August Environment Committee meeting. This document is the starting point for our implementation of Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa.	On track		

Action	Description	Update	Status
Capacity building	We will continue to build capacity on climate change across the organisation.	The recently launched 'Climate Corner' section in Moorena Mail (internal staff email newsletter) has so far highlighted three positive climate action stories from staff members and continues to encourage staff to get involved in climate action. Further information can be found in the General Managers Report for the 2 August Environment Committee Open Agenda. Following approval of Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa, we plan to release an online learning and development module to help staff better understand the impacts of climate change in Hamilton Kirikiriroa and how climate change needs to be considered in their role.	On track
Collaboration and communication	We will continue to collaborate with our community and stakeholders.	A communications plan has been developed for Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa, which outlines how we will share the strategy with our community and key stakeholders. Staff had a dedicated climate change stand at the 'Your Neighbourhood' Dinsdale event in June 2022, where we received lots of ideas from the community on climate action that they'd like to see in Hamilton Kirikiriroa. This information will be used to inform the next Action Plan, which we plan to develop over the 2022-23 financial year in partnership with the community. Staff have also recently represented Hamilton City Council at the Waikato Plan Symposium held in July 2022.	On track
Hamilton Climate Accord	We will invite leading organisations across the city to be a part of the Accord and to partner with us in taking action on climate change.	We are planning to contact Climate Accord partners as an immediate next step following strategy approval, to begin delivering on the strategy outcomes. As the strategy timeline has been delayed, the timeline for reengaging with these partners has also been delayed.	Timelines delayed

Action	Description	Update	Emissions profile source	Status
Measure emissions profile	Each year we will measure the non-biogenic emissions from council activities and operations, building, facilities, and our fleet. Non-biogenic emissions are produced non-biological sources, and most notably from fossil fuels. We have a target to achieve 50% reduction of gross emissions (excluding biogenic methane) by 2030.	We have calculated our emissions profile for 2021/22, noting that some data is unavailable at the time of writing and so estimates for the most recent data has been used where necessary. We will update and confirm the figures once all data has been received. In 2021/22, we generated approximately 9,776tCO2e of non-biogenic emissions, which is a 11% reduction in emissions compared to 2018/19 baseline.	N/A	Complete
Monitor biogenic emissions	Biogenic emissions are those produced from biological (plant and animal) sources. In 2018/19 the Council generated 11,159tCO2e of biogenic emissions from the treatment of Hamilton's wastewater. We have a target to achieve a 25% reduction of emissions of biogenic methane by 2030.	We do not measure biogenic emissions each year so have estimated the biogenic emissions by looking at the percentage change in wastewater treated for the year. Biogenic emissions for 2021/22 are approximately 12,136tCO2e, a 9% increase from the 2018/19 baseline. The increase is caused by population growth and is not unexpected. The key project planned to reduce these emissions is to utilise the biogas that is currently flared at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Instead of the biogas being flared (and creating biogenic emissions), we could use this resource to produce electricity, hydrogen, and/or heat. This would reduce our biogenic emissions from methane and achieve the biogenic emissions reduction target. Funding for this project has been secured across 2024/25 - 2025/26. See also page 5, 'Change to an alternative energy source at Pukete Wastewater Treatment Plant'.	N/A	Complete

Action	Description	Update	Emissions profile source	Status
Fleet improvements	As vehicles are renewed, they will benefit from continuous fuel efficiency improvements. We will replace petrol and diesel fleet vehicles with lower-emissions alternatives and implement behaviour change projects that encourage more sustainable travel.	The Corporate Fleet Transition High-Level Roadmap Report was unanimously supported by Elected Members and included setting the fleet emissions reduction target of 44% by 2030. Staff continue to review fleet utilisation which includes removing nine utes from the vehicle fleet and seeing 97% of passenger fleet becoming smaller, fuel efficient vehicles and hybrid vehicles. We are also preparing for a pilot taxi service project. Further information can be found in the Infrastructure Operations Open Agenda, 31 May 2022.	Fuel	On track
Ongoing behaviour projects – Fleet	We are investigating options to reduce emissions from Council's fleet use, including the Workplace Travel Plan, e-bike schemes, and other behaviour-change projects.	The staff Workplace Travel Plan is expected to launch in August 2022 (see page 9 for further information). Construction continues on the redevelopment of the corporate e-bike storage space and an online module and practical training sessions for using the e-bikes launched in May 2022. So far 29 staff have completed the module and 13 staff have completed practical training, and staff are planning further promotion activities of these opportunities. Site-specific e-bike training has also been completed at the Zoo with 33 staff members. As part of the fleet roadmap, the Fleet Team are also investigating an education workshop for staff to better understand our fleet transition journey and how they can contribute to achieving the fleet emissions reduction target.	Fuel	On track
Energy efficiency and sustainability upgrades at community libraries	Emissions reductions plans are being scoped out as part of libraries renewals programmes over the next 10 years.	Work continues on the new heating and ventilation system at Garden Place, and planning will commence for suburban libraries to build emissions reductions into upcoming renewals.	Electricity Natural gas	On track

Action	Description	Update	Emissions profile source	Status
Upgrade lighting in Council Municipal Building	Lighting in the Municipal Building will be upgraded to LED lights which adjust based on the amount of natural light and motion.	Occupancy and daylight-controlled light upgrades are now completed in Level 2, 5 and 6. Calculations show that energy use has reduced by 60-70% while light levels have improved.	Electricity	On track
Renew heating, ventilation, and air conditioning in Municipal Building	The centralised air conditioning system will be replaced with a decentralised one. The two gas boilers and cooling towers will become redundant.	This work has resulted in emissions reductions this year, however due to delays previously reported and an updated timeline (see Climate Change Acton Plan Monitoring Reports from February and May 2022), further savings are expected in 2022/23.	Natural gas	On track
Change to a low- carbon heat source at Waterworld	The current heating source used at Waterworld will change to a low-carbon heating source in 2021/22, with an objective to reduce carbon emissions from water heating by at least 80%.	On-site investigations with a heating consultant are planned for July 2022. The design will incorporate the enclosure of the Outdoor Pool from 2023/24. Delays to this project will mean that project completion will fall near the end of the 2022/23 financial year, and projected emissions reductions will be delayed until the following 2023/23 financial year.	Natural gas	Monitoring required
Changes to heating and planting at the nursery	Changes in planting will reduce the need for heating, and we are investigating options for the heating that is required.	As per the last Climate Change Action Plan Monitoring Report in May 2022, changes have been implemented and this action is marked as complete.	Natural gas	Complete
Change to an alternative energy source at Pukete Wastewater Treatment Plant	We are investigating options to utilise biogas that is produced on site and currently flared, as a resource to provide electricity, heat and/or hydrogen instead.	In line with the recent Annual Plan decisions, the business case for this project is being progressed and will be completed by the end of December 2022.	Electricity Natural gas	On track

Action	Description	Update	Emissions profile source	Status
Ongoing behaviour projects – Energy	We are investigating options to reduce emissions from Council's energy use through behaviour change projects.	Due to resourcing and delays to other projects, the Climate Change and Sustainability team have been unable to progress with Corporate Sustainability Working Group meetings to identify behaviour change projects to reduce energy usage across the business. However, this is a priority action going forward, as highlighted in Next stesp for Our Climate Future – Our 2022/23 Plan presented to the 2 August Environment Committee meeting. Further information can be found in Environment Committee 2 August Committee Open Agenda.	Electricity Natural gas	Monitoring required
Ongoing behaviour projects – Waste	We are investigating options to reduce emissions from Council's waste through behaviour-change projects.	Staff are developing a programme of work on internal waste behaviour change projects, and currently promoting the 'Plastic Free July' campaign. There will be waste minimisation messaging on internal digital screens, posters, and in each Moorena Mail (internal email newsletter) throughout the month of July. This will focus on Plastic Free July champions sharing stories and tips, actions staff can take to reduce plastic waste both in the office and at home, and a competition for staff to enter.	Waste	On track

Outcome area	Action	Description	Update	Responsible committee	Status
Transport	Access Hamilton refresh	We are updating our transport strategy, Access Hamilton. This will guide how we plan our transport infrastructure and services; how we will reduce transport emissions; and the role of walking, cycling, public transport and alternative fuels in reducing emissions. We expect this to be completed in 2022.	The Access Hamilton refresh process is drawing to a close, having completed workshops with and incorporating feedback from Elected Members and other key stakeholders. The final draft document is on track for endorsement at the Infrastructure Operations Committee on 9 August 2022 and approval at the 18 August 2022 Council meeting. Staff are currently working through plans with the Access Hamilton Elected Members Steering Group to communicate the updated strategy to Hamiltonians, including the production of a video.	Infrastructure Operations	On track
	Eastern Pathways – Schools Link Programme Business Case	Eastern Pathways – Schools Link is a programme of active transport and public transport infrastructure along Hukanui Road and Peachgrove Road.	The Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency Board has formally approved the Eastern Pathways School Link & Connections business case. The Board have also approved pre-implementation funding for the project. This allowed us to undertake the 'Professional Services Tender' phase to select a preferred consultant, and AECOM have been awarded the contract for design services. The next phase of the project will be to re-engage with the community and key stakeholders to remind them of the project and it's intended outcomes. Delivery of projects is likely to commence in early 2023.	Infrastructure Operations	On track

Outcome area	Action	Description	Update	Responsible committee	Status
Transport (cont.)	Biking & micro-mobility connectivity projects	We are making it easier for people to walk, ride, and scoot around our city, and to reduce our transport emissions and dependency on private vehicles.	This year we have completed numerous cycle safety treatments and improvements such as cycle wands, green paint, advanced cycle stop boxes and hook turn boxes at intersections across the city. This includes: - sections along Mill Street which received positive feedback from the cycling community - the intersection of Te Aroha Street and Peachgrove Road (a transitional safety improvement ahead of the Eastern Pathways School Link project) - We also used the opportunity of resealing Brooklyn Road (between Gillies Avenue and Five Crossroads roundabout) to reallocate road space and enable a southbound cycle lane to be installed. Staff are currently working on safety improvement designs for: - Rifle Range Road, to protect cyclists and provide a safer connection to local schools and park - Forest Lake Road (between Ulster Street and Avalon Drive) - the intersection of Lake Domain Road and Killarney Road. As well as improving safety at this high-risk intersection, we will be installing cycle facilities and pedestrian crossings to better connect the Western Rail Trail to the Lake Rotoroa area. This project will be delivered in the later part of 2022.	Infrastructure Operations	On track

Outcome area	Action	Description	Update	Responsible committee	Status
Transport (cont.)	Biking & micro- mobility Programme Business Case	This programme focuses on extending Hamilton's multi-modal transport network, to encourage biking and micro-mobility as a safe and attractive transport options.	Staff have worked with Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency to complete review of items for the Biking & Micro-mobility Business Case. The goal of the business case is to gain Waka Kotahi approval for our 30-year cycling and micro-mobility plan for the city, but with an established 10-year prioritised programme for investment. The 10-year programme will be made up of transitional cycling interventions, such as cycle wands and concrete separators, as well as permanent fully separated facilities. Due to the complexity of the review process, this has taken longer than expected and will now be presented to the Waka Kotahi Board in September 2022.	Infrastructure Operations	Timelines delayed
	Hamilton City Council Workplace Travel Plan	Work is underway to provide more sustainable modes of traveling to, from, and during work for Hamilton City Council staff.	Staff are working towards finalising the Workplace Travel Plan documentation for approval from the Executive Leadership Team, with the launch of the plan now scheduled for August 2022. The proposal for funding to subsidise 50% bus travel for staff for a period of six months was not agreed for inclusion in the 2022/23 Annual Plan, however, Bee Cards with a \$10 credit for staff were funded through operational budgets. So far, 233 staff have signed up for this and 69 staff with an existing Bee Card received the \$10 credit. Staff are planning further promotion of the Bee Card as the half price public transport subsidy has been extended by central government. We are also working on an online Workplace Travel Module and site maps to showcase easy options for staff to move around our city.	Infrastructure Operations	Timelines delayed

Outcome area	Action	Description	Update	Responsible committee	Status
area Transport (cont.)	Education and training	Provide education and training, including a cycle skills programme for both schools and the community to build rider skills and confidence.	COVID-19 restrictions have had a significant impact on the delivery of the cycle safety programme throughout 2021/22. However, staff visited six schools and delivered the Kids on Bikes programme to 760 students. Throughout June 2022, we ran a campaign to promote better transport choices outside schools. Messages were shared on social media platforms, radio, and buses, along with staff visiting eight schools and rewarding adults and children for choosing active travel and parents who parked further away from the school gate. Fourteen adult bike training sessions were also completed this year through a cycling stakeholder, with 58 attendees. This also included 120 bike repairs and 34 bikes donated to people who participated in the training. Additionally, funding for school travel planning was secured through the 2022/23 Annual Plan. Through this we plan to run a 2-year pilot for two		At risk – COVID-19 impact
			clusters of schools, one on the east and one on the west of the river.		

Outcome area	Action	Description	Update	Responsible committee	Status
Transport (cont.)	Improving our bus network	We are working with Waikato Regional Council and Waka Kotahi to make our key public transport routes more reliable and to make it easier for people to batch buses.	After completing public transport infrastructure studies for the Comet, Meteor, Rototuna, and hospital area services we have identified significant programmes of work that will help improve service reliability, attract more patrons, and inform long-term planning for public transport. We have worked with Waikato Regional Council to assess priority areas for delivery and are in the process of designing projects for construction over the next 12 months.	Infrastructure Operations	On track
	Transport Centre Rejuvenation Project	This project focuses on improving accessibility, safety, and operational efficiency of the Transport Centre.	The Request for Proposals for design team have closed, and staff are currently working through submissions and looking to award the contract soon. We continue to work with stakeholders to find a permanent solution for temporary bus stop locations. Engagement has started with wider stakeholder groups and will continue into the new financial year.	Infrastructure Operations	On track
	Electric vehicle charging stations	We are looking into partnership opportunities for EV charging stations throughout the city, to align with WRC Regional Charging Plan.	Staff have been working on the development of a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to trial EV chargers at specific Council sites. We have also been involved in regional collaboration to develop a charging network in the Waikato.	Infrastructure Operations	On track

Outcome area	Action	Description	Update	Responsible committee	Status
Urban form	Hamilton Urban Growth Strategy review	Climate change will be considered throughout the review process of the Hamilton Urban Growth strategy, which is our spatial vision for the city.	The strategy refresh is progressing well and is on track to being approved for consultation in October following the Council elections. The draft strategy considers how our approach to growth needs to be able to adapt to climate change and reduce climate change impacts to support our emissions reduction efforts and achieve climate resilience. It outlines that for our city, this means shaping growth that is compact; making decisions that support a low carbon future; enabling growth of homes and jobs in areas that can easily access public and/or active transport modes; and guiding growth to avoid areas where natural hazards (such as flooding) are present.	Strategic Growth	On track
	District Plan review	We are currently reviewing the District Plan to respond to the National Policy Statement for Urban Development and the Resource Management (Enabling Housing Supply and Other Matters) Act. Through this work, we need to give effect to the Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River, which will give rise to improved climate change outcomes.	Staff continue to draft Plan Change 12 and have recently held webinars with internal and external stakeholders and released a public-facing document. The purpose of these engagements is to further explain what these changes mean for our city, and Council's 'Eco-density' approach. This approach is our bespoke way of managing density across our city, to provides homes for people while also considering the needs of the Waikato River.	District Plan	On track
	Greenway corridor for Rotokauri	The greenway corridor will act primarily as a stormwater device for Rotokauri, but will also create an opportunity for cycleways, walkways, planting and habitats.	Staff are continuing to progress the Greenway Corridor design and ensure that developers consider climate change in this process.	Strategic Growth	On track

Outcome area	Action	Description	Update	Responsible committee	Status
Urban form (cont.)	Walking, cycling and public transport for Rotokauri	We are integrating walking, cycling and public transport infrastructure and services in our future plans for Rotokauri.	Staff are continuing to progress the Waiwhakareke Entry Precinct project which is on track for completion soon.	Strategic Growth	On track
	Peacocke Green Star Community rating	We are using the Green Star Communities Framework to guide and support the development of a sustainable community for Peacocke.	The Climate Adaptation Plan is now completed and has been submitted as part of the Green Star Communities application alongside evidence for the organisation's wider climate change response (such as the Climate Change Policy and plans for staff learning and development module) provided by the Sustainability and Climate Change team. The application is due to be submitted for assessment in July/August 2022.	Strategic Growth	On track
	Environmental wellbeing activities for Peacocke	We will protect and enhance the natural taonga, green spaces, and biodiversity as we develop Peacocke.	Restoration work continues in accordance with the Ecological Monitoring and Management Plan. A fourth site will be completed as part of the Whatukooruru Drive construction project.	Strategic Growth	On track
	Peacocke Plan Change 5	As we design for Peacocke, we are incorporating high ecological and transport outcomes, increasing density to support public transport, and protecting the natural environment.	We continue to engage with submitters to better understand the issues presented in their submissions. A hearing report will address these in advance of the hearing in September 2022.	Strategic Growth	On track

Outcome area	Action	Description	Update	Responsible committee	Status
Waste	Tronpost	Council has been sharing the compost made from Hamilton's food waste, dubbed 'Tronpost', with community groups.	'Tronpost' deliveries resumed in June 2022. Deliveries have been made to Te Papanui Enderley Maara Kai, Rauawaawa Maara Kai, Kirikiriroa Marae Maara Kai and Waimarie Community Garden.	Infrastructure Operations	On track
	Waste plans for new developments	We require all new properties and developments to have a waste plan that includes storage space for rubbish and recycling bins, and access for collection vehicles.	The IS solution for the receipt and processing of waste plans is now completed and the launch of this project will coincide with the Green Building Council's 'Green Speak Waikato' event in July 2022.	Infrastructure Operations	On track
	Collaboration with the construction industry	We will continue to collaborate with key stakeholders to address the growing construction and demolition waste issue.	Work has been completed on an education video using local business heroes who are actively reducing their construction waste through their building projects. The video will be launched at the Green Building Council's 'Green Speak Waikato' event in July 2022.	Infrastructure Operations	On track

Outcome area	Action	Description	Update	Responsible committee	Status
Waste (cont.)	Waste minimisation education	We will continue to educate the community about waste minimisation via our Fight the Landfill website, and in the new Education Room for schools and community groups.	Bookings are now being received for school groups to utilise the Education Room at the Materials Recovery Facility, to learn about waste minimisation. The first session is planned for July 2022. Staff will also be presenting at an online session with the Enviro Schools networks to promote the Education Room and encourage visits (along with other solutions for minimising waste in schools). Staff have been working in collaboration with Te Awa at The Base to plan a 'Fight the Landfill' school holiday education programme in July 2022. This will include education on how to recycle right with an interactive game, plus promotion of the Fight the Landfill website and recycling messages. The information is designed to appeal not only to our younger or school-aged community. We have been working with the 'Green Team' at Hillcrest High School to establish a recycling trial at the school and have been supporting them with material to educate their school community on minimising waste. Relationships have also been established at Woodstock Primary for staff to present at school assembly around recycling right and advising on other waste minimisation initiatives. Staff are also working to provide education and support to Sky City on their initiatives to establish and solution for food waste.	Infrastructure Operations	On track

Outcome area	Action	Description	Update	Responsible committee	Status
Water	Stormwater adaptation	We are ensuring that climate change considerations are embedded into the way we design and improve stormwater networks.	Flood maps for the Waitiwhiriwhiri (Dinsdale/Temple View) area have been released and Chartwell is on track to be released in August 2022. The current programme would see flood maps available for the entire city by the end of 2023. Staff have held meetings with Civil Defence, Planning, and Building and Development teams to ensure the maps are being used to support minimising the impacts of climate change.	Infrastructure Operations	On track
	Rainwater Storage Tanks Incentivisation Study	This project investigates the use, benefits and incentives for rainwater tanks and grey-water reuse as a tool for meeting potable water demand needs.	A report on rainwater tank and grey water incentivisation has been completed and is being considered as part of District Plan reviews. This action is funded by the Water Stimulus Project and further information will be provided at the 9 August Infrastructure Operations Committee meeting.	Infrastructure Operations	On track
	Water Sustainability Strategy	We are developing a Water Sustainability Strategy to guide the future direction of our water activity.	The draft Water Sustainability Strategy has been completed. Further work is required to finalise the strategy, including ongoing engagement with mana whenua and testing of measures. The strategy includes water specific objectives and focus areas which cover climate change. This action is funded by the Water Stimulus Project and further information will be provided at the 9 August Infrastructure Operations Committee meeting.	Infrastructure Operations	On track

Outcome area	Action	Description	Update	Responsible committee	Status
Water (cont.)	Three Waters Resilience Study	As part of our three waters services, we are identifying and assessing our vulnerabilities to hazards including flooding, drought, water allocation and access to resources, all of which are impacted by climate.	The resilience project is complete with a number of future improvements identified which now require prioritisation. This project also delivered a high-level assessment of natural hazard vulnerabilities (at the asset-type level) along with indicative impact of climate change on the vulnerability levels. This is intended to help prioritise future climate change adaptation actions and will be incorporated into future planning. This action is funded by the Water Stimulus Project and further information will be provided at the 9 August Infrastructure Operations Committee meeting.	Infrastructure Operations	Complete
	Water demand management zones	We will continue to address water leakage across the city by creating supply zones and associated Demand Management Areas. These allow us to better manage consumption and leakage by monitoring network pressures and flows at discrete locations.	Work is progressing well, with the Hamilton South Zone expected to be completed by the end of December 2022.	Infrastructure Operations	On track

Outcome area	Action	Description	Update	Responsible committee	Status
Biodiversity	Nature in the City Strategy	This strategy aims to achieve 10% native vegetation cover in Hamilton by 2050.	The Nature in the City Programme was launched with a successful planting event in Kukutaaruhe (Donny Park) in May 2022. As well as seeing 1500 native plants planted, this event raised awareness and fostered connections in the local community. Successful recruitment throughout the year means there is increased capacity to deliver on the Programme Management Plan, and to undertake further prioritisation. This recruitment includes a monitoring and reporting lead to develop a monitoring framework and report on progress.	Environment	On track
	Waiwhakareke Natural Heritage Park	We are continuing to invest in Waiwhakareke to develop path networks and enhance the park as a visitor destination.	Waiwhakareke has seen many successful events this year including volunteer enrichment plantings with Friends of Waiwhakareke; Arbor Day, which was well-attended despite bad weather; and a Cultural Day held in June 2022 which was well attended by Elected Members, other dignitaries, and over 100 people from different ethnicities and backgrounds. This event resulted in around 2000 plants going in the ground, and another planting in conjunction with Trees that Count saw 4000 plants in the ground. The Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment has also visited the park and was very impressed, and staff will continue to work with him for connectivity. The Predator Proof Fence Feasibility Study has been completed and the recommendations reviewed and supported by the expert panel. Further information will be provided via a briefing with Elected Members in August.	Community	On track

Key highlights from 2021/22



Reducing Council emissions

- Council's (non-biogenic) emissions have decreased from 10,802tCO2e in 2020/21 to 9,776tCO2e in 2021/22. This is an 11% reduction on our 2018/19 baseline.
- We set an emissions reduction target for Council's fleet emissions. We're aiming for a 44% reduction in fleet emissions by 2030, which equates to approximately 439tCO2e.
- A \$10 Bee card credit scheme, which is part of our draft Workplace Travel Plan, has been well received - over 300 staff have signed up so far!

Our climate change response

- Council voted unanimously on 30 June 2022 to approve the Climate Change Policy, which ensures that climate change is embedded in our decision-making process across Council.
- We've finalised work on the climate change strategy, Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa, including emissions reduction targets for the city and updated targets for our organisation and are planning to adopt the strategy by the end of 2022.

Biodiversity

A successful planting event in Kukutaaruhe (Donny Park) in May helped to launch the Nature in the City Programme and around 1500 native plants were planted.

Over 30,000 plants have gone in the ground at Waiwhakareke Natural Heritage Park this financial year thanks to various events and volunteer groups.

Urban form



- Proposed changes in District Plan Change 12 support walking, cycling, scootering and public transport for our city.
- This includes making new roads and footpaths wider, asking developers to implement travel plans that prioritise alternatives to cars, and requirements for cycle parking, gear lockers, showers and changing rooms.
- Our proposals also include 'green policies' with controls around landscaping, permeable surfaces and rainwater tanks.

Water



We entered into a funding agreement with central government as part of the Three Waters Reform, to complete a programme of 19 separate three waters projects that were selected to improve business continuity, resilience, and sustainability of our three waters services.

The programme includes projects relating to climate change mitigation such as an internal Water Sustainability Strategy which has been drafted this year, and projects related to adaptation to climate change such as the Three Waters Resilience Study which has been completed.

Transport



- Despite challenges from COVID-19 restrictions, 760 students from six schools completed the Kids on Bikes programme, and 14 adult bike training sessions were completed with 58 attendees, 120 bike repairs, and 34 bikes donated to participants.
- We've partnered with others in the region to collaborate on an electric vehicle charging network in the Waikato and are working towards a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to trial EV chargers at specific Council sites.
- Public transport infrastructure studies for the Comet, Meteor, Rototuna and hospital area services have been completed and will inform improvements to our city's bus services.



Waste

Bookings are now being received for school groups to utilise the Education Room at the Materials Recovery Facility.

Despite COVID-19 restrictions and challenges, we have continued to share compost made from Hamilton's food waste and deliveries of 'Tronpost' having been received by multiple community groups. This year, we've shared 58.5m3!

Hamilton City Council's emissions profile

In 2021/22 Hamilton City Council operations resulted in 9,776 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions (tCO2e, excluding biogenic emissions).

Emissions from working from home have been excluded from the 2021/22 emissions profile as we do not currently have enough accurate data of work from home trends across the organisation to measure these. Understanding these emissions and how best to measure them will be considered in reviewing the emissions reduction roadmap for Hamilton City Council in 2022/23.

This is the fourth emissions profile we have completed for our corporate emissions. Our first profile in 2018/19 is the baseline for our 50% non-biogenic emissions reduction target by 2030.

Figure 1. Hamilton City Council emissions profile 2020/21 (excluding biogenic methane)

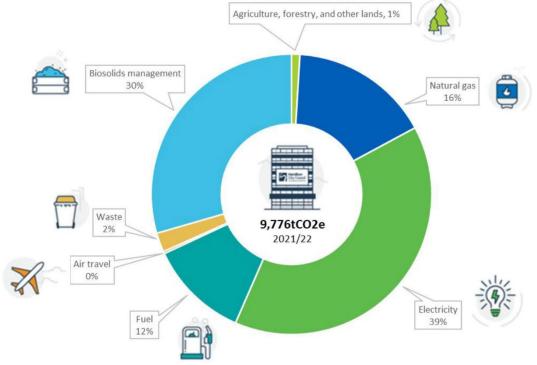
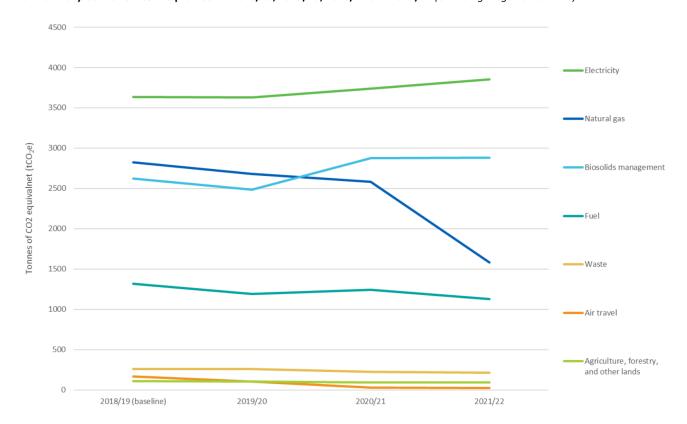


Figure 2. Hamilton City Council emissions profiles for 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22 (excluding biogenic methane)



In 2021/22 our corporate emissions have continued to decrease overall, however there have been some increases in emissions from electricity and biosolids management activities. Emissions from working from home from all years (2018/19-2021/22) have been excluded from Figure 2 for consistency.

Electricity

Emissions from electricity use in 2021/22 was 3,852 tCO2e. This is an increase on previous years as we have transitioned away from using natural gas (which has a higher emissions impact) to using electricity, which is anticipated to come from more renewable sources in the national electricity grid. However, New Zealand continues to rely heavily on thermal power operations to meet electricity demand, and the national emissions factor for electricity (i.e., how emissions-intensive it is) is not likely to reduce until 2025 when new renewable power generation is online.

The main increase in electricity use in 2021/22 was at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, as we no longer rely on the onsite gas engine for power generation in peak demand periods and instead take power from the national electricity grid. Increases were also seen at the Water Treatment Plant due to increased pumping, new reservoirs, and large sewage pumps. Reductions were seen in H3 events facilities, streetlights, and Waterworld and Gallagher Aquatic Centre.

Natural gas

Emissions from natural gas use in 2021/22 was 1,581 tCO2e. This is a decrease on previous years and a 45% reduction compared to 2020/21. Most of the reduction comes from the onsite gas engine at the Wastewater Treatment Plant no longer being used to managed peak demand periods. The gas engine is only used when bio-gas production fails or when additional heat is required for the plant.

Aside from the Wastewater Treatment Plant, other reductions in natural gas use were seen at Gallagher Aquatic Centre and H3 Events due to the impacts of COVID-19 restrictions, and at the Nursery due to changes in heating and planting. The only significant increase in natural gas in 2021/22 was seen at the Museum, due to control of humidity in the building. Works are being completed to improve this.

Biosolids management

In 2021/22, emissions from biosolids management were 2,882tCO2e. This emissions source is made up of the transport and vermicomposting of biosolids. Emissions from the transport of biosolids remain similar to previous years, however emissions from the vermicomposting have increased by 11% since 2018/19 baseline. Similar to last year's emissions for this source, this increase is due to population growth.

Fuel

Emissions from fuel in 2021/22 were 1,126tCO2e. This is a decrease on previous years and reductions have been seen in diesel and petrol (91 and 95), however there was an increase in LPG emissions. This was due to LPG use at the crematorium (emissions rose from 131 tCO2e in 2020/21 to 171 tCO2e in 2021/22 at this site). The cremator units have been recently serviced and we are investigating efficiency improvements.

Waste

These are emission from waste to landfill across Council sites. In the past 12 months, we have seen a 6tCO2e decrease in these emissions. Since 2018/19 baseline, we have seen a 17% reduction in emissions from this source.

Travel

Emissions from air travel, hotels and rental cars remain well below forecast expectations due to COVID-19 impacts, however, have started to rise again in the last quarter (April-June 2022). This reflects the increased availability of domestic and international flights.

Agriculture, forestry and other lands

Emissions from these sources remain largely the same as previous years.

Council Report

Committee: Environment Committee **Date:** 02 August 2022

Author: Luke Archbold **Authoriser:** Helen Paki

Position: Parks Operational Planning **Position:** General Manager Community

and Capital Projects Manager

Report Name: Nature in the City Programme Update

Report Status	Open

Purpose - Take

1. To inform the Environment Committee on the progress with the Nature in the City programme.

Staff Recommendation - Tuutohu-aa-kaimahi

2. That the Environment Committee receives the report.

Executive Summary - Whakaraapopototanga matua

- 3. Through approval of the Nature in the City strategy and implementation plan on 1 December 2020, the Environment Committee recognised the benefits of increasing the native vegetation cover across Hamilton.
- 4. The 2021-31 LTP confirmed investment of \$29,097,000 allocated to Nature in the City programme across the 10-years.
- 5. Recruitment has been completed for all initial positions for Nature in the city. This has enabled a significant increase in Council's ability to maintain our existing natural areas, increased our engagement with the Hamilton community, as well as provisioning key programme leadership roles to ensure a well-planned strategic execution of the programme priorities.
- 6. The "ground breaking" planting day event officially launched the whole Nature in the City programme as well as initial works at Kukutaaruhe/ Donny Park.
- 7. There has been a focus on engaging with partners and stakeholders (both external and internal) to establish and/or grow relationships, an understanding of why and what the Nature in the City programme is seeking to achieve, as well as where the programme and their interests align.
- 8. A Technical Advisory Group has been established including key partners and stakeholders to ensure the programme is well informed to enable success.
- 9. Detailed planning and baseline monitoring development is underway for Kukutaaruhe/Donny Park, with implementation to be completed in Year 2 of the programme. Detailed planning for Te Awa O Katipaki to be completed in Year 2 as well. Other key milestones for Year 2 have been provided for in the Discussion section below (section 28).
- 10. Staff consider the matters in this report have low significance and that the recommendations comply with the Council's legal requirements.

Item

Background - Koorero whaimaarama

- 11. Approximately 98% of Hamilton's native vegetation cover has been removed, with less than 2% remaining. At least 10% native vegetation cover is required to ensure that ecosystems are sustainable over time and to provide habitat for native fauna.
- 12. There are legislative and strategic requirements to restore indigenous biodiversity (including RMA requirements, the Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River) as well as delivering on the aspirations contained in the Aotearoa New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy 2020.
- 13. There has been an increasing public awareness of biodiversity loss and the need to address climate change at a local level, resulting in a community expectation that action will be taken to invest in reversing this decline.
- 14. The Nature in the City strategy and implementation plan were approved at the 1 December 2020 Environment Committee, recognising the need to respond to the ecological imperative, community interest and legislative requirements.
- 15. The 2021-31 LTP confirmed investment of \$29,097,000 allocated to Nature in the City programme across the 10-years which includes \$5,974,913 in the first 3 years.
- 16. In the November 2021 update to the Committee, staff provided the benefits map (**Attachment 1**) that defines the key elements of the programme including the measures and targets for the first 10 years of Nature in the City.

Discussion - Matapaki

- 17. Recruitment of key personnel is now complete with recruitment of Programme Manager (early April) and Monitoring and Reporting Lead (early June).
- 18. Five new Natural Areas Rangers have been recruited to the gully maintenance team which has been operating at full capacity since May 2022 to maintain our existing natural areas. This has resulted in the following improvements:
 - i. The new team has enabled a return to scheduled maintenance of 70 sites where previously we were only able to undertake reactive work.
 - ii. Higher frequency of visits to natural areas means pest plant outbreaks are being caught before they become a significant issue.
 - iii. We now have staff working alongside community volunteers to share expertise and good practice.
 - iv. Safety has improved for rangers, now able to work in teams of two or more where previously they would have worked alone.
- 19. A second Community Restoration Advisor and a part-time Private Gully Advisor have been recruited. We are now engaging more than previously able to, where:
 - i. We have increased capacity to connect with schools and work with them to undertake restoration activities along with opportunities to connect with and learn about nature.
 - ii. We have increased capacity to connect with corporate groups. For example, a 3-year partnership has been developed with Ebbets VW to care for a natural area.
 - iii. Increased capacity has resulted in higher levels of engagement with established community restoration groups.
 - iv. Increased resident engagement with private gully owners is building momentum in gully restoration, and the advice and support provided by the advisor is creating a higher quality and more consistent approach to restoration activities.
 - v. Increased capacity means residents requests are being responded to in a timelier manner, resulting in increased satisfaction of community members.

- 20. In addition to the above, the general increase in community facing staff has also provided additional positive outcomes:
 - i. More capacity to develop and nurture volunteer relationships has resulted in higher number of repeat/regular volunteers.
 - ii. Increased staff levels have enabled a richer team with diversity of age, gender, ethnicity and experience.
 - iii. A larger team means more capacity to take on a variety of experience levels creating a succession plan for the team which is likely to create more stability and efficiency moving forward.
- 21. The programme was officially launched with a successful lwi/community "ground-breaking" planting event and blessing at Kukutaaruhe/Donny Park in May.
- 22. Consultants have been engaged to provide options for enhancing ecological values and design of infrastructure, including pathways, furniture, and signage. Physical works are expected to commence early January 2023.
- 23. The programme team are working closely in partnership with mana whenua and the Fairfield Project to integrate cultural priorities into design and align our respective work programmes and assessments for Kukutaaruhe/Donny Park.
- 24. Baseline monitoring (ecological, recreation and volunteering) requirements are being identified for Kukutaaruhe/Donny Park as well as for the wider programme locations to enable ongoing measurement and reporting against baseline and programme benefits. As site specific baseline monitoring requirements are established, ongoing measurement will commence throughout the year. Current state, baseline reporting will be available within the next six months.
- 25. A Technical Advisory Group has been set up to advise and support the programme and extend its capability in areas of ecology, education, and community connection. This group includes representatives from the University of Waikato, Department of Conservation, Waikato Regional Council and Go Eco. We are awaiting confirmation of Iwi representation from our mana whenua partners.
- 26. Development and strengthening of internal relationships between the programme and other council units is ongoing. Initial engagement to understand the core interests of internal stakeholders will inform establishment of an internal working group. This working group will be a catalyst for embedding consideration of the Nature in the City Strategy across all relevant Council activities.
- 27. Programme planning, mapping and analysis is underway to assess both long-term programme targets and short-term priorities. Key data is being identified and compiled, with the updated SNA data being a core requirement. Community activity data will be captured, assessed, and aligned with ecological priorities. This work should be completed within the next six months.
- 28. Key milestones planned for Year 2 of the programme are:
 - i. Native restoration planting of an estimated 10,000 trees at Kukutaaruhe/Donny Park.
 - ii. 510m of new walking paths in Kukutaaruhe/Donny Park.
 - iii. MOU with the Fairfield Project signed.
 - iv. Baseline monitoring for the six main gullies begins. Monitoring methodology will be developed and confirmed within the first 6 months of Y2, baseline monitoring to then commence for a full 12-month monitoring cycle.
 - v. Urban Native Restoration Methodology will be developed working with the TAG group. This will clearly define what constitutes native dominance and a methodology to achieve this will be developed that incorporates both western science and Mataranga Maori.
 - vi. Refresh of the Nature in the City website completed.

- vii. Biodiversity condition and values assessments completed for priority SNAs where native restoration will be undertaken by the programme.
- viii. Detailed planning for native restoration planting and capital works for Te Awa O Katipaki undertaken.
- 29. Item 7 of the Environment Committee meeting minutes from Tue 30 Nov 2021 noted questions from Members regarding collaboration opportunities with Waikato DHB. Initial discussions are under way and interest has been acknowledged by DHB staff in looking at the opportunity to undertake restoration at the adjoining gully system (Graham Park next to the hospital) as part of mental health and wellbeing programmes being run by Te Whatu Ora.

Financial Considerations - Whaiwhakaaro Puutea

- 30. The 2021-31 Long Term Plan has \$29,097,000 allocated to Nature in the City programme across the 10-years.
- 31. The programme team have developed an implementation plan for the first three years that aligns with the phasing of the LTP budget.
- 32. Current work to date has cost \$566,633 Operating and \$38,000 Capital.
- 33. Year 1 has experienced delays due to emerging challenges with recruitment (I.e. availability of qualified candidates), impacts relating to Covid, limited availability of suitable consultants, and most recently a lack of capacity within our lwi partners to engage with the programme.
- 34. The most significant impact of the above has been on our capital spend, however, this budget has been carried over to Year 2 and the programme is now well placed deliver works by the end of the current financial year.

Legal and Policy Considerations - Whaiwhakaaro-aa-ture

35. Staff confirm that the Nature in the City strategy and this report complies with the Council's legal and policy requirements.

Wellbeing Considerations - Whaiwhakaaro-aa-oranga tonutanga

- 36. The purpose of Local Government changed on the 14 May 2019 to include promotion of the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of communities in the present and for the future ('the 4 wellbeings').
- 37. The subject matter of this report has been evaluated in terms of the 4 wellbeings during the process of developing this report as outlined below.
- 38. The recommendations set out in this report are consistent with that purpose.

Social

- 39. Research indicates that spending time in nature, particularly through recreation, increases physical and mental wellbeing.
- 40. Having significant areas of native forest and vegetation within an urban environment provides opportunities for the community to find respite from the 'busy-ness' of the city and reduces stress levels for those who spend time in nature.
- 41. By restoring the natural areas and gully networks, we create more opportunities to connect with nature. When people connect with nature, they are more likely to then take action to protect nature, which in turn results in more people undertaking ecological restoration.

Economic

- 42. Native restoration activities will be delivered through several different ways staff will undertake work; contractors will be engaged for new planting; and volunteers will be enabled to participate in native restoration. In all cases the programmes funding will be injected into the local economy through wages, the cost of services and purchase of plants, equipment, and other supplies.
- 43. Additional revenue opportunities will be explored and secured to enable further employment opportunities to undertake native restoration. E.g., Jobs for Nature funding via the Department of Conservation.

Environmental

- 44. Restoring Hamilton's gully systems will provide greater ecological resilience for the city through the improvement of green infrastructure.
- 45. By realising this core object of the programme, we will be contributing to other organisational objectives by using ecological processes to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change and reduce pollutants being discharged to air and water.
- 46. Through native restoration habitat will be created for endemic native species, water quality will be improved, erosion and sediment loss into water ways will be reduced.

Cultural

- 47. By developing a wholistic approach to urban native restoration that includes both western science and Maatauranga Maaori we will create a modern, culturally unique, way of caring for our native flora. This will provide another avenue for a wider group of mana whenua to reconnect will their cultural heritage.
- 48. Mana whenua will be a part of the Programme Board, should they have an interest in being part of the leadership of the programme.
- 49. The programme will seek opportunities to support and enable mana whenua to undertake native restoration on their own land.

Risks - Tuuraru

- 50. The programme team have completed risk workshops to identify and collate known risks relating to Nature in the City. These have been provided to the Programme Board for ongoing review, mitigation, and management to ensure successful implementation of the programme.
- 51. The Programme Board has a key role of escalating risks to senior leaders or elected members should the likelihood and criticality exceed set tolerances.

Significance & Engagement Policy - *Kaupapa here whakahira/anganui* Significance

52. Having considered the Significance and Engagement Policy, staff have assessed that the matters in this report has low significance.

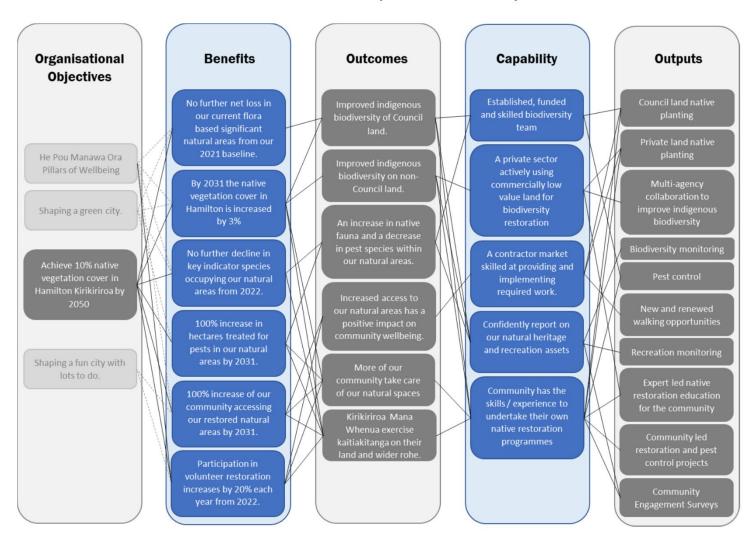
Engagement

53. Community views and preferences are already known to the Council through the engagement undertaken with development of the Nature in the City strategy.

Attachments - Ngaa taapirihanga

Attachment 1 - Nature in the City - Benefits Map

Nature in the City – Benefits Map



Council Report

Committee: Environment Committee **Date:** 02 August 2022

Author: Charlotte Catmur **Authoriser:** Sean Hickey

Position: Sustainability and Climate **Position:** General Manager Strategy

Change Manager and Communications

Report Name: Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa - strategy approval

Report Status	Open
•	·

Purpose - Take

- 1. To seek the Environment Committee recommendation that the Council adopts the climate change strategy Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa and Next steps for Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa Our Plan for 2022-23.
- 2. To inform the Environment Committee of the supporting documents to the strategy.

Staff Recommendation - Tuutohu-aa-kaimahi (Recommendation to the Council)

- 3. That the Environment Committee:
 - a) recommends the Council;
 - (i) adopts the climate change strategy 'Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa';
 - (ii) next steps for Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa Our Plan for 2022-23; and
 - b) notes that the supporting documents will be published on Council's website following the approval of the strategy.

Executive Summary - Whakaraapopototanga matua

- 4. The purpose of Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa is to set the future direction for our response to climate change. It sets the vision of Hamilton's future as a "thriving, low-carbon city that is responding and adapting to climate change" and guides how Hamiltonians will adapt the way they live, work, play, and move in and around the city, to transition to this.
- 5. Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa can be found in Attachment 1.
- 6. There are three supporting documents which outline the research and engagement that has informed the development of Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa. These are:
 - i. National, regional, and Council strategies and plans that have informed Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa (**Attachment 2**)
 - ii. Communication and engagement that has informed Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti
 o Kirikiriroa (Attachment 3)

- iii. Setting our emissions reduction targets for Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa (Attachment 4)
- 7. The actions Council will take this year (2022-23) to begin delivering on the strategy vision and outcomes, are outlined in **Attachment 5**, Next steps for Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa Our Plan for 2022-23.
- 8. Staff consider the matters in this report have medium significance and that the recommendations in this report comply with the Council's legal requirements.

Background - Koorero whaimaarama

- 9. Hamilton City Council recognises that climate change is an urgent issue, and the community of Hamilton (particularly our youth) have advocated strongly for Council to respond.
- 10. On 10 September 2020, the Environment Committee approved the 2020/21 Climate Change Action Plan. The second Climate Change Action Plan, for the 2021/22 period, was approved at the 26 August 2021 Environment Committee meeting, with a subsequent amendment at the 30 November 2021 Environment Committee meeting. These two plans have included projects that were already underway and funded through the 2021-2031 Long Term Plan.
- 11. While these documents outline what Council is already doing to respond to climate change, a strategy for climate change will map the future climate of Hamilton and how Council will respond to this challenge going forward.
- 12. On 29 August 2021, the Environment Committee approved a forward work programme which included the development of a climate change strategy.

Discussion - Matapaki

13. The strategy, Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa, is designed to be an enduring, long-living document that provides the framework for our climate change response from now until 2050. It may be reviewed as needed but there is no set timeframe for this review, as it sets the high-level direction.

Development of the strategy

- 14. In developing the strategy the national, regional, and Hamilton City Council strategies and policies that influence climate change response have been considered. Information on the strategic framework and strategies and plans that have influenced the development of the strategy can be found in **Attachment 2**.
- 15. The previous engagements that Council has done with the community to understand what they consider to be important when responding to climate change have also been considered. This includes Council's community engagement for the 2021-31 Long Term Plan, key stakeholder workshops, and other engagements. This information, along with engagement on the draft strategy, can be found in **Attachment 3**.
- 16. A working draft of the vision, guiding principles and outcomes were developed and tested with staff through our Climate Change Working Group and Steering Group.
- 17. Staff then presented this working draft to Members at an Environment Committee workshop on 29 November 2021. Following this workshop, the Draft Climate Change Strategy was presented to Members at an Environment Committee workshop on 22 February 2022.
- 18. Over the course of October 2021 May 2022, staff have also engaged and sought feedback on the draft strategy with:
 - i. Climate Change Working Group
 - ii. Climate Change Steering Group

- iii. Executive Leadership Team
- iv. Various groups and units across council
- v. Key external and community stakeholders through a series of online workshops
- vi. Iwi and Maaori partners including Te Haa o te Whenua o Kirikiriroa, Waikato-Tainui, and Te Ruunanga o Kirikiriroa
- 19. Further information about the external communications and engagements can be found in **Attachment 3**.
- Staff also presented to Members at a workshop on 18 May 2022 to discuss and seek guidance on the emissions reduction targets to include in Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa.
- 21. Staff have also worked closely with external consultants to set the emissions reduction targets outlined in the strategy. Further information on setting these targets can be found in **Attachment 4,** Setting our emissions reduction targets for Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa.

Key details of the strategy

22. Based on the research and engagement, the following vision and outcomes have been developed:

Vision

Hamilton Kirikiriroa is a thriving, low-carbon bity that responds and adapts to climate change

Outcomes

- i. By acting together, our emissions are reducing
- ii. Our neighbourhoods enable low-carbon living
- iii. Our city is ready for Hamilton's climate
- 23. The strategy sets the 2030 and 2050 emissions reduction targets. These are included in the strategy as they are higher-level and longer-term goals that are needed to guide Council's response and actions. Any other short-term metrics will be set in the Action Plan.
- 24. A key piece of feedback from the workshops and engagements was that while the strategy is important, there is strong desire for Council to further climate action. Staff will work with teams across the business, and our community and iwi partners, to develop a detailed action plan. This plan will contain the projects and initiatives that will be implemented across Council to achieve the strategy vision, outcomes and emissions reduction targets.
- 25. In addition, the actions Council will take this year is outlined in Next steps for Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa Our Plan for 2022-23. This can be found in **Attachment 5**. The work completed this year will provide the foundation for the first detailed Action Plan.
- 26. Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa is a foundation strategy for Hamilton City Council (He Pou Manawa Ora is another example of a 'foundation' strategy). This means that it underpins our organisation, guiding decisions and behaviours, and will support and/or influence (to a larger or lesser degree) most of the other strategies and plans at Council and should be considered during their development and review.
- 27. A Communication Plan has been developed to share the strategy with the community. The key messages will be shared through Council's social media channels and a story on our Hamilton. Over the coming months staff will attend Your Neighbourhood and other stakeholder events to share the strategy and also seek input on the development of the action plan.

28. If the recommendation is not approved, Council will not have a framework to guide our climate change response and will not have the emissions reduction targets to work towards. The community is calling on Council to act in response to climate change and staff have engaged with key stakeholders throughout the strategy development process, so the expectations of both the community and key stakeholders will need to be managed if the recommendation is not approved.

Financial Considerations - Whaiwhakaaro Puutea

- 29. This is a regular operating activity funded through the 2021-2031 Long-Term Plan. Costs incurred include staff time, design and illustration work, and expert advice from consultants on setting emissions reduction targets.
- 30. Actions included in the Next steps for Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa Our Plan for 2022-23 are funded through the 2021-31 Long-Term Plan.

Legal and Policy Considerations - Whaiwhakaaro-aa-ture

31. Staff confirm that the recommendation complies with the Council's legal and policy requirements.

Wellbeing Considerations - Whaiwhakaaro-aa-oranga tonutanga

- 32. The purpose of Local Government changed on the 14 May 2019 to include promotion of the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of communities in the present and for the future ('the 4 wellbeings').
- 33. The subject matter of this report has been evaluated in terms of the 4 wellbeings during the process of developing this report as outlined below.
- 34. The recommendations set out in this report are consistent with that purpose.

Social

35. Climate change has the potential to reduce our community's social wellbeing, especially our more vulnerable community members. Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa provides a framework to address this and take action to minimise the risk and enhance social wellbeing.

Economic

36. Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa provides the high-level framework for how to transition to a low-carbon economy in Hamilton. As the understanding of the economic risks and opportunities facing the city is improved, collaborate with others can be established to address them.

Environmental

37. Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa will set emissions reduction targets for Hamilton and for Council's corporate emissions. It will guide how to achieve these reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and build resilience to climate change, both of which are key to protecting and enhancing environment wellbeing.

Cultural

38. The long-term impacts of climate change may affect the cultural wellbeing of the community, for example if values and customs are unable to be undertaken. Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa will requires collaboration to understand these risks and will mean that these considerations are built into Council decision-making.

Risks - Tuuraru

- 39. Our Climate Future: Te Pa Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa is a mitigation response for Strategic Risk 9 Climate Change.
- 40. There is also an increasing risk of climate change litigation action, which this strategy helps to mitigate.

Significance & Engagement Policy - *Kaupapa here whakahira/anganui* Significance

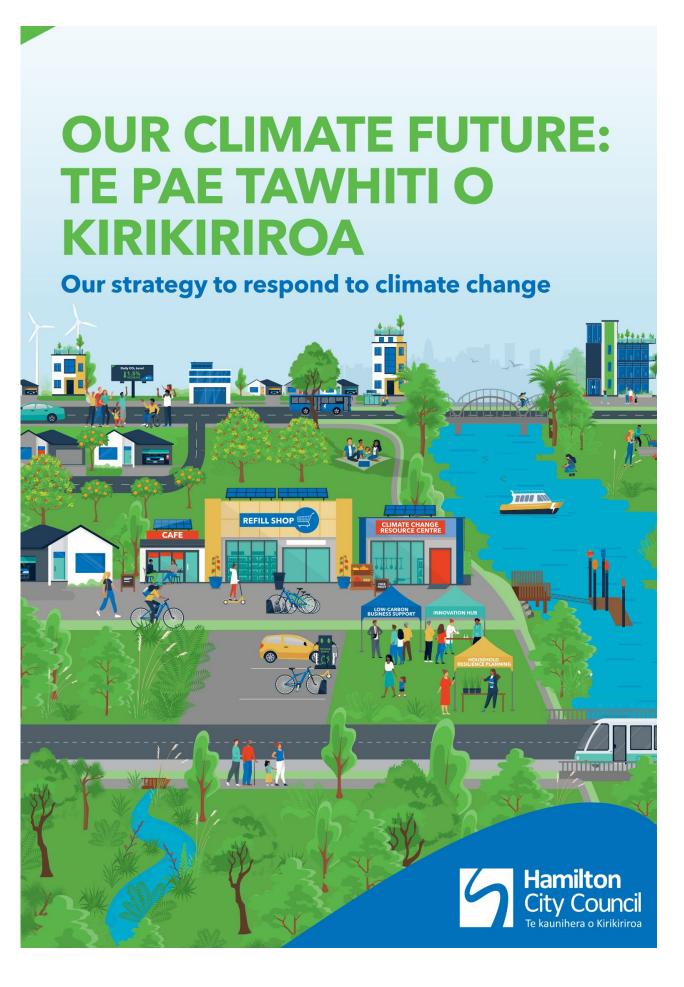
41. Staff have considered the key considerations under the Significance and Engagement Policy and have assessed that the recommendation(s) in this report has/have a medium level of significance.

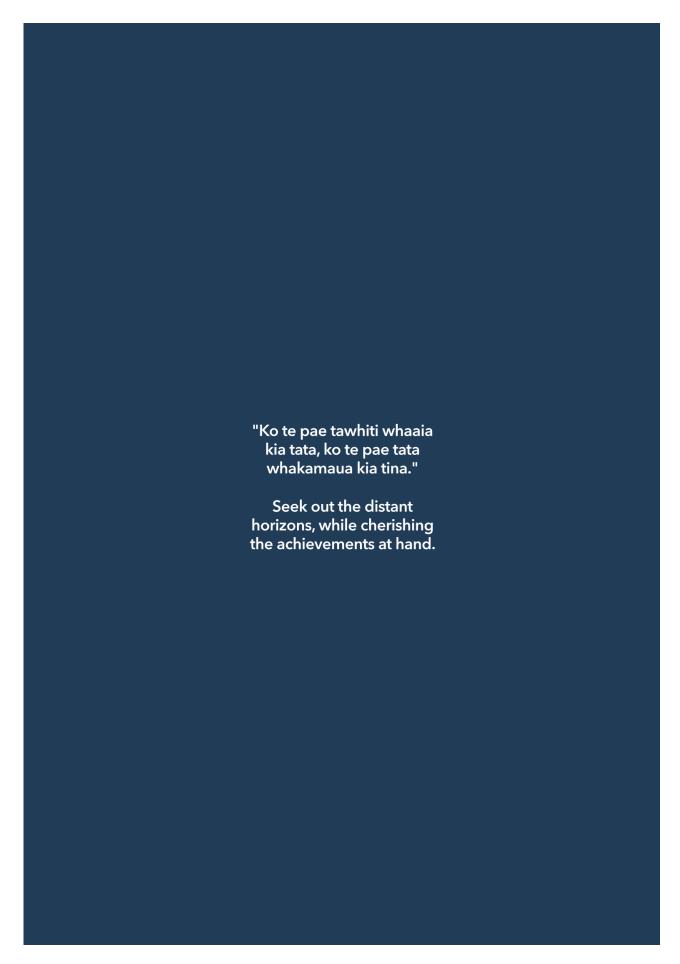
Engagement

- 42. Community views and preferences are already known to the Council through:
 - i. Climate Strike for Future and other youth engagements
 - ii. Climate Change Engagement Reports with businesses and community
 - iii. Consultation on the 2021-32 Long Term Plan
 - iv. Social media series on climate change messaging and the 2021/22 Climate Change Action Plan
 - v. Key stakeholder workshops for strategy development
 - vi. Engagement with Maaori stakeholders for strategy development
- 43. Information on this engagement is provided in **Attachment 3**.
- 44. Given the medium level of significance determined, the engagement level is medium. No engagement is required.

Attachments - Ngaa taapirihanga

- Attachment 1 Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa Our strategy to respond to climate change
- Attachment 2 Supporting document National, regional, and Council strategy and policy context
- Attachment 3 Supporting document Communication and engagement context
- Attachment 4 Supporting document Setting our emissions reduction targets
- Attachment 5 Next steps for Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa Our Plan for 2022-23





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Hamilton City Council 1 Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa

Introduction

Climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time. Without immediate, bold, and decisive action, we will continue to see the impacts intensify, and the world inherited by future generations will look increasingly different to the one we know today. Fortunately, there is still a window of opportunity for us to act.

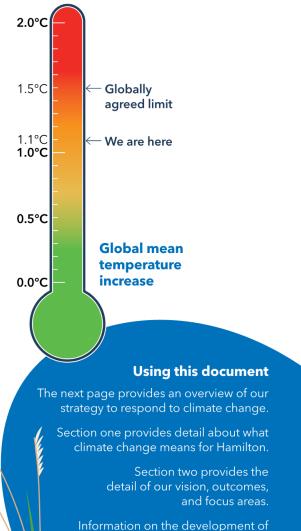
Climate change is more than just an increase in temperature; it includes changes in weather patterns like drought and floods. The things that our community values in Hamilton Kirikiriroa, the awa (river), our gullies and natural spaces, are already being impacted by climate change.

As these changes continue and intensify, they will impact the wellbeing of our community. We need to prepare our community and city to be resilient to these changes.

New Zealand Aotearoa along with most countries around the world have committed to limit global warming to 1.5°C to avoid the worst impacts of climate change. To achieve this, we must act now to reduce emissions at the global, national, and local scale. Here in Hamilton Kirikiriroa this means embracing lowcarbon transport, focusing on sustainable urban intensification, and enabling our community to make low-carbon choices.

Our community has made it clear that they want Council to lead the way in responding to the climate crisis for our city. This Strategy

- Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa - outlines the priorities for our response and will guide the way we consider climate change in all we do. We will continue to work together with our partners and community as we implement this strategy and deliver our action plans.



Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa, and updates on the Strategy implementation and other associated work, can be found on the Hamilton City Council website, hamilton.govt.nz.

Hamilton City Council 2 Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa

Our climate future Our strategy to respond to climate change

Our vision: Hamilton Kirikiriroa is a thriving, low-carbon city that responds and adapts to climate change

He taaone taurikura, waro-hakahaka hoki a Kirikiriroa e urupare nei, e urutau nei hoki ki ngaa panonitanga aa-huarere

Outcome one:



By acting together, our emissions are reducing

He mahi tahi noo maatou, e mimiti haere ana ngaa paanga parakino

Our focus areas:

- Establish and implement emissions reduction pathways for our city and our organisation's emissions.
- Develop a low-emissions transport network and system.
- Make Hamilton a centre of excellence for climate response innovation.
- Support our businesses and community through the lowcarbon transition and to reduce their emissions.
- Embed circular economy principles in all activities.

Outcome two:



Our neighbourhoods enable lowcarbon living

Maa oo tatou takiwaa noohanga e ora ai te ao warohakahaka

Our focus areas:

- Create a 20-minute city of compact, connected and healthy neighbourhoods, with a focus on sustainable urban intensification.
- Enable low-carbon infrastructure and buildings, and opportunities for renewable energy solutions.
- Support community sharing networks to reduce emissions and enable other co-benefits

Outcome three:



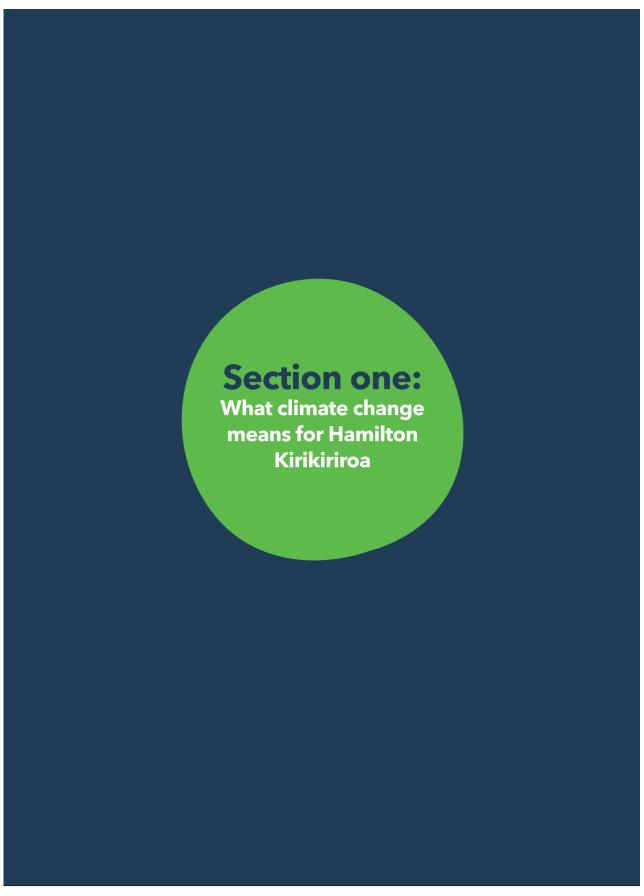
Our city is ready for Hamilton's climate

Kei te rite too taatou taaone moo te aahuarangi o Kirikiriroa

Our focus areas:

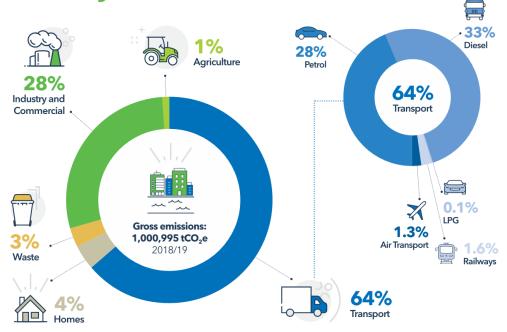
- Improve our community's resilience and reduce the impact of climate change on their wellbeing.
- Build the right things in the right place to reduce our climate risk exposure.
- Future-proof existing and new infrastructure to be climate resilient.
- Regenerate our natural environment, to improve the resilience of our gullies and other natural areas.
- Encourage sustainable water use and conservation measures to protect the Waikato River.

Hamilton City Council 3 Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa



Hamilton City Council 4 Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa

Our city's emissions



In 2018/19, Hamilton's gross (total) emissions were 1,000,995 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalents (tCO₂e). This includes emissions from the activities of residents, visitors, businesses, and industries. When accounting for emissions removed by carbon sinks such as forestry, our net emissions were 1,000,243tCO₂e. This represents 6tCO₂e per person per year, or approximately 252 car trips from Hamilton to Auckland.¹

Transport accounts for almost two thirds of our city's emissions. These come from trips within the city as well as from people coming into Hamilton Kirikiriroa for work, play and business. Reducing these emissions means changing how people move in and out of, and around our city to get to work or school every day; and at a city and regional scale, it means a transformation of our transport network and system.

As an urban area, we have little forestry in Hamilton Kirikiriroa. So, using plants and trees to capture and store (sequester) our emissions is a challenge compared to other parts of the country.

Our city is growing quickly, adding more pressure on the need to reduce emissions. We can show leadership by approaching this growth in a climate-conscious way and use it as an opportunity to support our community to live low-carbon lifestyles.

Hamilton Kirikiriroa is well-placed to respond to climate change. We are an innovative city, with a young and diverse population and passionate community groups. By acting now, we can maximise the opportunities for our people and environment as the country transitions to a low-carbon future.

Hamilton City Council 5 Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa

This is an approximation, calculated using Toitu travel calculator.

Changes in our climate

The climate in our city is already changing, including longer summers, warmer temperatures, extreme rainfall, and drought. Climate modelling shows that for Hamilton Kirikiriroa, over the next few decades we'll experience:













total rainfall

temperatures

increase in extreme rainfall events

longer hot summer season

increase in the number of hot nights

increase in the number of hot days.

At a high level, these may just seem like changes in weather. However, these changes will affect our community, as the weather and climate influence our lives in many ways.



Climate change and our community's wellbeing

Changes in our climate are already starting to impact some aspects of our community's wellbeing, and as it worsens, there will be more widespread changes.

In contrast, with good planning there are opportunities in the transition that will benefit for our community.

Our everyday lives

Without appropriate action, the impact of climate change will be increasingly felt in our daily lives, e.g.:

- The availability and cost of food may be affected as farming and supply chains are disrupted.
- Bills for heating and cooling our homes are likely to increase.
- The cost of home and contents insurance is likely to increase, as more areas become hazardous.
- Our community may begin to feel the health impacts of climate change, including from heat exposure, spread of viruses and the stress and anxiety caused by uncertainty.

Reducing emissions can also lead to positive changes in our daily lives, e.g. more walking and biking can be good for health.



Hamilton City Council 7 Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa

Increased inequality

Climate change and the low-carbon transition are likely to be felt more by some groups of our community than others, such as people with disabilities, and the elderly.

While some costs will go up for many, those already struggling will likely be most impacted. e.g. some people may be:

- unable to afford upfront cost of energy efficient heating/cooling which results in higher ongoing costs
- unable to afford an electric car so left paying high costs for petrol.

Our rangatahi (young people) will also be more impacted, as they have to live with the long-term consequences of climate change.

Impacts and their significance to Maaori

There are several risks that have been identified as significant to Maaori, including:

- loss of land, biodiversity, and food sources
- · loss of cultural sites such as marae
- impact on historical sites along the awa
- impacts on tikanga (cultural practices, traditions) that have been passed down through generations.

Changes to our economy

The economy will change as we transition to a low-carbon city. There will likely be changes in the types of jobs available and the industries operating in Hamilton. Multiple industries are likely to be impacted by the transition, e.g.:

- Mechanics electric vehicles require less maintenance than petrol and diesel cars.
- Farming changes in on farm practices to reduce emissions.
- Small businesses impacted by changes to costs in their supply chains.

There will be new jobs and industries created through the transition that could be an

opportunity for our community. This includes opportunities for circular economy industries that keep waste out of landfill and new lowcarbon technologies.

Our infrastructure

Infrastructure that keeps our city running may become more vulnerable to the extreme weather. This could impact key services like roads, water supply and community facilities, and lead to increased costs. Our stormwater network will be subject to increasing intensity in rainfall that we are already starting to experience.

New infrastructure will need to be designed and built to withstand the anticipated changes in weather, costing more to build.

The Waikato River

Our most important taonga (treasure), the Waikato River, is put at risk by the changing

- Higher temperatures may disrupt the natural ecosystem and increase demand for drinking water, causing the health of the awa to deteriorate.
- A reduction in the quality of the awa will impact drinking water availability for households and industry, as well as opportunities for recreation and respite from the heat.

Our natural areas and biodiversity

Hamilton's parks and natural areas, including our gullies, are also affected by changes to our climate.

- Changes in temperature and rainfall could enable new and existing pest species to thrive, threatening our plants and wildlife and requiring increased maintenance.
- The ability to use our city's natural spaces in extreme weather may be limited, with reduced opportunities to play, exercise, and interact with nature.

To protect ourselves and our environment from these impacts we need a step change in our climate response. This Strategy and our emissions targets are our commitment to taking strong action.



Hamilton City Council 8 Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa

Section two: Our Strategy

Climate change impacts all of us and threatens the wellbeing of our community and environment. We must act now to reduce our emissions, prepare for current and future impacts, and respond to the effects we are already experiencing. This Strategy guides our response as we transition towards our vision for Hamilton Kirikiriroa as a low-carbon and resilient city.

Hamilton City Council 9 Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa



Hamilton City Council 10 Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa

Our role

The role Hamilton City Council will play in delivering the vision.

Hamilton City Council leads by example and advocates for the community in preparing for and responding to climate change.

Council has an important role in responding to climate change. We can directly and indirectly impact emissions in the city, and we are on the frontline in preparing our community for changes in the climate.

Council can have a direct impact on emissions and our climate preparedness through:

- regulatory tools like the District Plan and resource consents
- provision of infrastructure like roads, cycleways and footpaths
- · provision of services like rubbish and recycling
- purchasing of goods and services
- addressing our own emissions.

Indirectly we can have an impact on emissions and adaptation by:

- partnering with other councils, businesses, and organisations, e.g. on joint emissions reduction or sequestration projects
- influencing decisions, e.g. through joint committees
- advocating to those who have responsibility to act, e.g. submissions to central government
- empowering and educating our community, businesses, and industry to be part of Hamilton's climate change response.



Hamilton City Council 11 Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa

Guiding principles

These principles guide our actions and decision-making and have influenced the development of the Strategy. We will continue to be guided by them as we develop action plans.

Equitable and holistic

Kia torowhaanui, kia taurite

We take a holistic wellbeing approach to climate change, focusing on actions that are equitable for our community.

Working together

Te mahi ngaatahi

Collective action is essential to our climate response. We must collaborate with iwi, hapuu, residents, community organisations, businesses, central and local government, and other key partners.

Valuing Te who Te ao M of ref

Valuing te ao Maaori Te whakanui i te ao

Te ao Maaori is a frame of reference for our action, to ensure that our decisions acknowledge the interconnectedness and interrelationship of all living and non-living things.

Bold and informed

Kia whai kaha, kia maarama!

Our climate response is bold and based on research and evidence. This includes maatauranga Maaori (Maaori knowledge), the valuable insight that has been continually tested

Taking the right action

Te tika o te mahi

We follow best practice in our climate response and are transparent and accountable for our actions.

Future-focused

Te aronga anamata

We are taking action now to create a sustainable city that benefits generations to come as well as our current community.



Hamilton City Council 12 Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa

An equitable transition

For our city to thrive in the future, we need everyone to be ready for both the physical impacts of climate change and the transition to low-carbon living. To do this, we must ensure that everyone is included in a fair and equitable transition.

The actions we take to respond to climate change will consider how we support both those who have limited ability to act, as well as those who don't want to take action on climate change.

We will tailor our response to our different communities in Hamilton Kirikiriroa, recognising the cultural, economic, and social differences within these communities.

Understanding existing inequalities and the barriers for our community to participate in the transition to a low-carbon future, will enable us to develop an inclusive response that ensures no one is left behind as our city changes. This

includes working in partnership with iwi and hapuu and involving them at all levels; protecting Maaori concepts, values, and practices; and providing equitable support and opportunities for Maaori to prosper.

As the transition to a low-carbon economy accelerates, some businesses and industries will be affected. Through our climate change response, we will identify ways to support and advocate for new learning opportunities, skills, and employment for our community, to ensure those impacted have access to the tools and information they need.



Hamilton City Council 13 Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa

Te ao Maaori and climate action

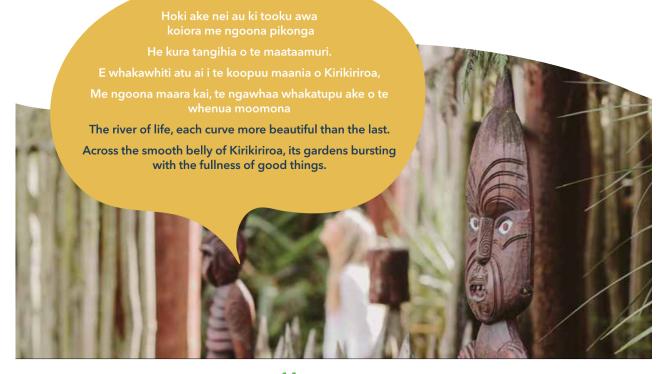
Te ao Maaori teaches us that all life is connected, and there is an intimate relationship between people and their environment. Upon arriving in New Zealand Aotearoa, Maaori gained maatauranga (knowledge, wisdom) of the natural environment based on experiences, research, and encounters with new land, weather patterns, flora and fauna. Guided by this and tikanga, passed down through whakapapa (genealogy) and narratives retold by ancestors, Maaori were able to learn and maintain the mauri (life force) of their natural environment.

Kaitiakitanga, meaning guardianship, protection, stewardship, is a way of thinking, acting, and behaving in Maaori culture. It has been practiced by Maaori for centuries, e.g. by setting temporary raahui (a ban, conservation measure) on certain areas, or by using the lunar calendar to guide planting, harvesting, hunting, and fishing, so that resources are gathered sustainably.

Using te ao Maaori as a frame of reference is crucial for our climate change response and provides a deeper insight into the links between our social, cultural, environmental, and economic wellbeing.

Embedding te ao Maaori in our climate change response aligns with Council's He Pou Manawa Ora - Pillars of Wellbeing Strategy. He Pou Manawa Ora outlines our vision for a city that celebrates its whole history, including its unique Maaori heritage. The strategy recognises Maaori as key partners in determining Hamilton's future and aims to achieve better outcomes for Maaori and all Hamiltonians. The four pillars or 'pou' are history, unity, prosperity and restoration.

We all have a duty as kaitiaki (guardians, stewards) to be part of the response to climate change. At a local level, our response to climate change can restore and enhance our city and river, and reinstate the natural beauty observed by Kiingi Taawhiao in his maimai aroha (lament, show of affection):



Hamilton City Council 14 Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa

Our emissions targets

We are setting these targets but acknowledge that everyone has a role to play in achieving them - Council, central government, our regional partners, businesses, and community will all need to act together.

To find out more about how we got to these targets, visit our website.

City-wide

Turning point -Emissions peak at the very latest

Based on latest science and advice from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), global emissions must peak by 2025 at the latest.

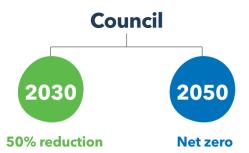
2030

Minimum 30% reduction

We have put a Hamilton 'lens' over national modelling and believe that we can achieve this target. It will mean pushing ourselves to do more in our climate change response.

Minimum 82% reduction

We have put a Hamilton 'lens' over the national modelling and this target reflects our share of the national target of net zero by 2050.



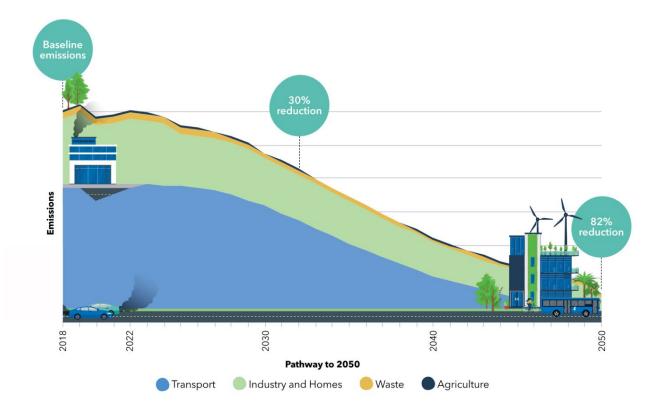
We need to show leadership as a Council, to bring the community and our partners along our emissions reduction journey.

> -----Note - the baseline for our targets is 2018/2019

Hamilton City Council 15 Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa

We don't know exactly what our emissions reduction pathway to 2050 will look like - breakthroughs in technology and the uptake of low-carbon behaviours can only be modelled based on what we currently know.

The latest modelling shows that our pathway will most likely follow this trend.





Hamilton City Council 16 Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa

Our three outcomes



Outcome one:

By acting together, our emissions are reducing

He mahi tahi noo maatou, e mimiti haere ana ngaa paanga parakino



Outcome two:

Our neighbourhoods enable low-carbon living

> Maa oo tatou takiwaa noohanga e ora ai te ao waro-hakahaka



Outcome three:

Our city is ready for Hamilton's climate

Kei te rite too taatou taaone moo te aahuarangi o Kirikiriroa

Hamilton City Council 17 Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa

Outcome one:

By acting together, our emissions are reducing

Reducing our emissions requires collective action - by working together with our community, businesses, and partners we can make this happen.

There are many within our community who have started to reduce emissions. We need to build on this and get everyone taking action to increase the rate of reduction. We will regularly review our progress towards our targets and provide updates on how we are tracking.

At Council we have started to reduce our operational emissions by improving our energy efficiency, changing fuel sources, and travelling less. We will continue to find new ways to reduce our emissions.

Reducing emissions from transport is a priority. We need to shift from the cardominant city we are today, to a city that embraces low-emissions travel options such as walking, biking, and public

transport. Through our partnerships, we also need to support the use of zero and low-carbon fuels for freight.

Emissions from industry and commercial activities are the second largest portion of our city's emissions. As an innovative city we can be transformational in our response, as we support existing industries to transition and attract new low-carbon industries to our city.

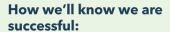
We will focus on shifting to a circular economy, which eliminates waste and keeps resources in use for as long as possible. It's designed to replace our current 'take-make-dispose' system with a 'make-use-return' system.



Hamilton City Council 18 Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa

Our focus areas:

- Establish and implement emissions reduction pathways for our city and own organisation's emissions.
 - » We will map out the actions we need to take to achieve our targets in partnership with our community and businesses.
- Develop a low-emissions transport network and system.
 - » In partnership with others, we will create a transport network and system that supports easily accessible and safe walking, biking, micro-mobility and public transport, including electric buses. We will support electric and zero-emissions vehicles for those trips that require a car, and trains for moving goods in and out of Hamilton as well as connecting us to other cities and towns like Auckland and Cambridge.
- Make Hamilton a centre of excellence for climate response innovation.
 - » Together with our partners, we will identify new opportunities for developing creative and technical solutions.
- Support our businesses and community through the low-carbon transition and to reduce their emissions.
 - » We will work with our community and businesses to understand and plan for the impacts of the transition.
 - » We will provide tailored education and tools on low-carbon actions.
 - » We will work with our Climate Accord members, a group made up of local businesses and organisations, to deliver and champion emissions reduction actions across the city.
- Embed circular economy principles in all activities.
 - » We will partner with businesses to identify opportunities for new circular industries in Hamilton Kirikiriroa.
 - » We will educate our community and our own organisation on making decisions that minimise waste, and incorporate circular economy principles in our purchasing decisions.



- We are progressing towards our emissions targets.
- Emissions from transport are decreasing.
- There is an increase in the community's awareness of our climate change response.
- The number of businesses acting on climate change is increasing.
- The quantity of material entering the waste stream is decreasing.



Hamilton City Council 19 Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa

Outcome two:

Our neighbourhoods enable low-carbon living

To reduce our emissions, we need to make it easy for our residents to access, live and contribute to a low-carbon lifestyle.

As a rapidly growing city, this is a challenge. Our city planning needs to prioritise sustainable urban intensification within Hamilton's existing built environment to realise the low-carbon benefits that this can bring.

We aspire to be a 20-minute city of compact, connected, and healthy neighbourhoods.

For Hamilton Kirikiriroa, this means that people can live locally by meeting most of their daily needs walking from their home, in pleasant surroundings, and with safe, easy access to other parts of the city by biking, using micro-mobility, or public transport.

Ideally our neighbourhoods should include:

- a small supermarket, butcher, grocer, bakery and café
- opportunities for play and open green spaces
- early childhood facilities and primary schools
- health services such as doctors, dentists, and chemists
- facilities for biking and public transport.

Access to other things outside of our neighbourhoods, such as libraries, swimming pools, major shopping centres, the Zoo, and workplaces, would be easy to access by walking, biking or using public transport.



Hamilton City Council 20 Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa

Our homes, shops and workplaces need to be built with emissions in mind. All new buildings need to be efficient to heat and cool and incorporate sustainable design principles. They should also consider emissions reductions during the design and construction phases. Standards set by central government need to drive better design in new builds as well as in existing homes and businesses. These buildings need to be upgraded to reduce the energy needed to heat and cool them.

Neighbourhoods should provide access to sharing economies so that everyone can participate in lowcarbon living - not only those who can afford it.

A sharing economy means communities share access to goods and services, e.g.:

- toy, tool and other resource libraries
- electric car and bike share services.

Our focus areas:

- Create a 20-minute city of compact, connected and healthy neighbourhoods, with a focus on sustainable urban intensification.
 - We will do this through our urban and transport planning and implementation of the Hamilton Urban Growth Strategy, Access Hamilton, Metro Spatial Plan and District Plan.
- **Enable low-carbon infrastructure and buildings,** and opportunities for renewable energy solutions.
 - » We will use our planning and regulatory tools to drive better design and we will also advocate for changes in the Building Code and other legislative tools.
 - » We will make sure our own buildings are operating as low emission and as efficiently as possible.
- Support community sharing networks to reduce emissions and enable other co-benefits.

How we'll know we are successful:

- More people are using active transport options (e.g. walking, biking, scooting) within their neighbourhoods.
- There is an increase in the use of public transport.
- More of our homes and buildings are incorporating sustainable design principles.
- Our communities are actively making lowcarbon choices as they recognise the benefits of doing so.



Hamilton City Council 21 Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa

Outcome three:

Our city is ready for Hamilton's climate

We are already experiencing some of the effects of climate change and these will only intensify. We need to improve the ability of our community and natural and built environments to deal with these changes.

Understanding our climate risks and having upto-date information will be critical to our success. It will enable us to design the appropriate solutions to address potential impacts on our community's wellbeing.

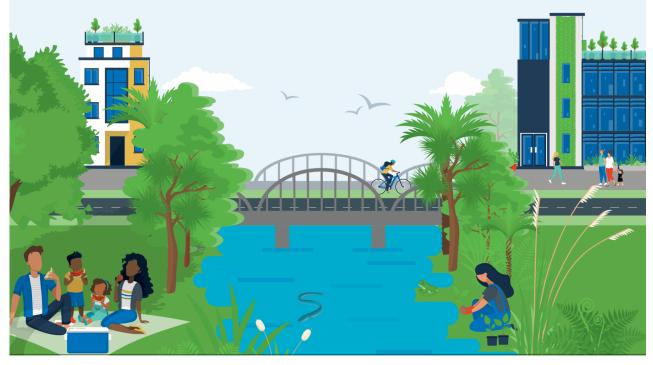
Our understanding of the physical risks will guide our planning decisions and mean that we build the right things in the right place. e.g. we will need to consider the latest climate predictions to understand and protect against flooding events and to better manage stormwater runoff.

Existing and new infrastructure such as pipes, roads, and drainage systems need to be future-proofed, so that they can deal with impacts like extreme rainfall events and increased temperatures, while continuing to provide essential services. In understanding the risks, we

will be more ready to respond when a hazard event does occur and we need to act quickly.

Nature has a key role to play in our adaptation response. In making our infrastructure more resilient we can incorporate nature-based solutions such as green roofs, natural waterways, and trees - which help reduce urban heat intensification, reduce run off into our stormwater network and sequester carbon.

We must restore and protect our natural areas, especially those most vulnerable to climate change - including the Waikato River and our gullies - while also incorporating more natural spaces into our city. We need to protect our awa and its ecosystem by encouraging better management of stormwater runoff and more sustainable water use by households, businesses and Council.



Hamilton City Council 22 Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa

We are committed to restoring and enhancing the environment, and particularly the Waikato River, in line with Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato (Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River), Tai Tumu, Tai Pari, Tai Ao (Waikato-Tainui Environmental Plan 2050) and Te Rautaki Taamata Ao Turoa o Hauaa: Ngaati Hauaa Environmental Management Plan. These commitments will be a vital part of our climate change response and we will work in partnership with our community and iwi partners to achieve them.

Our focus areas:

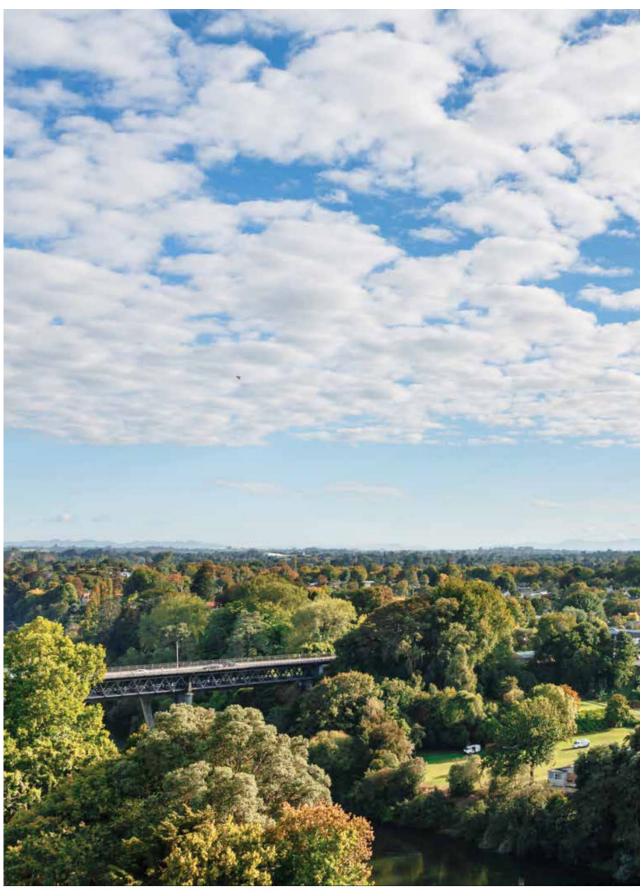
- Improve our community's resilience and reduce the impact of climate change on their wellbeing.
 - » We will complete climate change risk assessments for our city and develop appropriate adaptation responses.
- Build the right things in the right place to reduce our climate risk exposure.
 - » We will regularly complete climate modelling for our city and integrate it with existing data. We will use it to inform our planning for the city.
- Future-proof existing and new infrastructure to be climate resilient.
 - » We will embed climate change considerations into our infrastructure and asset management planning.
- Regenerate our natural environment, to improve the resilience of our gullies and other natural areas.
 - » We will invest in our natural environment through the delivery of the Nature in the City Strategy and work with our community to protect trees and natural areas across Hamilton.
- Encourage sustainable water use and conservation measures to protect the Waikato River.
 - » We will lead by example, reducing water use in our parks, green spaces, community facilities and event venues.

How we'll know we are successful:

- Our roads and cycleways are meeting our community's needs despite the changes in climate and extreme weather events.
- Native vegetation cover has increased to 10% by 2050 – in line with our Nature in the City Strategy.
- Tree canopy cover is increasing across the city.
- Our stormwater system continues to minimise the impact on the awa despite changes in rainfall.
- Water is being conserved by our community, businesses, and at Council facilities.
- Our community is more aware of the impacts of climate change in Hamilton Kirikiriroa.



Hamilton City Council 23 Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa



Hamilton City Council 24 Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa



Hamilton City Council 25 Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa



OUR CLIMATE FUTURE: TE PAE TAWHITI O KIRIKIRIROA

Supporting document

National, regional, and Council strategy and policy context



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INTRODUCTION

There are several national and regional strategies and policies, along with existing Hamilton City Council policies and strategies, that have set the context and provided guidance for developing Hamilton City Council's climate change strategy. This document outlines these context-setting pieces and how they have influenced the development of Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa.

An explanation of how these documents have influenced or will enable Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa is provided, and the icon signals which strategy outcome it relates to. The outcomes are:



By acting together, our emissions are reducing



Our neighbourhoods enable low-carbon living



Our city is ready for Hamilton's climate

NATIONAL DIRECTION

The accumulation of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere are changing New Zealand's climate. From 1909 to 2019 the average annual temperature in New Zealand has risen by 1.13 (±0.27) degrees Celsius, and we are beginning to see rising sea levels, and changes to drought and extreme rainfall¹.

"Climate change has well and truly arrived in New Zealand and is affecting the climate where we live."¹

In 2018, carbon dioxide made up 45% of New Zealand's gross greenhouse gas emissions, with 43% of this coming from road transport. Methane made up 43% of gross greenhouse gas emissions, with 86% of this coming from livestock. The remainder of the gross greenhouse gas emissions were 10% nitrous oxide (mainly from agricultural soils) and 2% fluorinated gases¹.

As a city, Hamilton's emissions profile looks different – we do not have a large agriculture sector, so these emissions are low. Transport is the biggest contributor to our emissions and in 2018/19 made up 64% of our emissions profile. This was followed by industry and commercial activities, which represent 28% of our emissions profile. Further information on both Hamilton city's emission and the corporate emissions of Hamilton City Council, can be found on our website.

Central government recognises that the climate shapes our cultural, economic, social, and environmental wellbeing. There are strategies and policies already in place or currently under development to support a national response to the issue of climate change. These have been considered throughout the development of Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa:

- Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act 2019
- Climate Commission's Advice Inaaia tonu nei: a low emissions future for Aotearoa
- Aotearoa New Zealand's First Emissions Reduction Plan Te hau maarohi ki anamata:
 Towards a productive, sustainable and inclusive economy
- National Climate Change Risk Assessment for New Zealand: Arotakenga Tuuraru moo te Huringa Aahuarangi o Aotearoa
- Draft National Adaptation Plan Te mahere urutaunga aa-motu (tuhinga hukihuki)
- Local Government Act 2002
- National Policy Statement Urban Development 2020
- Government Policy Statement on Housing and Urban Development

Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act 2019

The <u>Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act 2019</u> provides a framework for New Zealand to develop and implement policies that align with the Paris Agreement to limit global

¹ Ministry for the Environment & Stats NZ (2020). *New Zealand's Environmental Reporting Series: Our atmosphere and climate 2020.*

temperatures to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and allow New Zealand to prepare for and adapt to the effects of climate change. This Amendment Act allows central government to set emissions budgets which are 'stepping stones' to the country's 2050 emission reduction targets of:

- Reduce net emissions of all greenhouse gases (except biogenic methane) to zero by 2050
- Reduce emissions of biogenic methane to 24-47% below 2017 levels by 2050, including 10% below 2017 levels by 2030.

As a local government, we have a responsibility to contribute towards these budgets and targets and will be impacted by decisions that central government makes to achieve them.

Climate Change Commission's Advice - Inaaia tonu nei: a low emissions future for Aotearoa

Central government established the Climate Change Commission as part of the Amendment Act. The Commission provide independent advice to the government and monitor how New Zealand is tracking against its goals.

The Climate Commission provided its first report <u>Inaaia tonu nei: a low emissions future for Aotearoa</u> to government in June 2021, advising the government on its first three emissions budgets and direction for the Emissions Reduction Plan 2022-2025. The advice included modelling of potential pathways that national emissions could follow, based on different scenarios and assumptions, to reduce emissions from now until 2050 to achieve the net zero target.

Some key points from this report that are relevant for Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa, include:

Transport

- Reduce reliance on cars and support people to walk, cycle, and use public transport. Central government should support local governments to implement these changes
- Rapidly adopt electric vehicles
- Begin work to decarbonise heavy transport and freight by developing a low-emissions freight strategy, moving more freight by rail and sea, and encourage low-emission fuels

Energy, industry, and buildings

- Develop an energy strategy including a renewable energy target and increased energy efficiency. Work on this with Maaori, communities, industry, and local government
- Stop installation of new coal boilers and phase out fossil fuels in existing boilers
- Innovate to decarbonise industries that will find it hard to reduce emissions
- Upgrade Building Code to ensure low emission and healthy buildings
- Encourage low-emissions designs and construction
- Mandate energy performance programmes for public and commercial buildings

Waste and fluorinated gases

- Revise the waste strategy, including goals to reduce waste emissions
- Invest in resource recovery infrastructure, research, and development

Forest and other carbon stocks

• Establish a national programme for more native forests

- Amend climate policies including the Emissions Trading Scheme to manage the number of forests planted
- Effective pest management to protect forests
- Clarify the role of permanent exotic forests in transition
- Protect peatlands and wetlands from losing carbon e.g., through drainage and destruction

A fair, inclusive, and equitable transition

- Develop a strategy that enables:
 - o Upholding Treaty principles through genuine partnership with iwi/Maaori
 - o Planning that is pro-active and co-designed
 - Education for New Zealanders to participate in a low-emissions economy
 - o Supporting high-emissions labour force to retrain and move into low-emissions roles
 - Assessing the distributional impact of climate policies and strategies

Transition for iwi/Maaori

- Develop a strategy to ensure Treaty principles are embedded in emissions reduction plans
- Work in partnership with iwi, Maaori, and local government
- Develop a strategy to advance a Maaori-led approach for Maaori and the Maaori economy
- Build partnerships that result in equitable outcomes for iwi and Maaori

The Commission also advised the government to limit offshore mitigation for emissions budgets, meaning that the budgets must be met as far as possible through domestic action.

First Emissions Reduction Plan - Te hau maarohi ki anamata: Towards a productive, sustainable and inclusive economy

Following the advice from the Climate Commission and public consultation (to which Hamilton City Council made a submission), central government released the <u>first Emissions Reduction Plan</u> in May 2022. This is the first statutory plan, under the Climate Change Response Act, to require the Government to act to reduce emissions right across the economy and support all New Zealanders to make the most of the transition and seize the opportunity to lower the cost of living and improve living standards.

In this plan, the government provided the first three emissions budgets which are as follows:

Table 1: First three emissions budgets for Aotearoa New Zealand, as outlined in the government's first Emissions Reduction Plan.

Budget period	2022-25	2026-30	2031-35	
All gases	290 Mt CO2e	305 Mt CO2e	240 Mt CO2e	
Annual average	72.5 Mt CO2e	61 Mt CO2e	48 Mt CO2e	
Note: Mt CO2e – megatonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent				

The Government also incorporated new strategies and policies, including new targets. Some of these key strategies, policies and targets that are relevant for Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa, include:

- Reduce transport emissions by 41% by 2035
- Reduce vehicle kilometres travelled (VKT) by light fleet by 20 percent by 2035 through improved urban form and providing better travel options, particularly in largest cities

- Increase zero-emissions vehicles to 30 per cent of the light fleet by 2035
- Set sub-national VKT reduction targets for Aotearoa New Zealand's major urban areas (Tier 1 and 2) by the end of 2022 (Hamilton is a Tier 1 urban area)
- Improving the reach, frequency, and quality of public transport
- Providing national direction to deliver a step-change in cycling and walking rates
- Supporting local government to accelerate widespread street/road reallocation to support public transport, active travel and placemaking
- Implementing mode-shift plans for our largest cities and begin planning for other urban areas
- Producing a national electric vehicle infrastructure plan
- Developing a strategy for moving to a circular economy with a thriving bioeconomy
- Developing a circular sustainable development pilot fund to support business, communities, and iwi to further move to a circular economy
- Reduce waste from construction and demolition
- Reducing organic waste disposal to landfill by looking at food waste and green waste collections, and at businesses separating food and green waste
- Integrating emissions reduction into land-use planning and investments as part of the resource management reforms
- Integrating emissions into urban planning and funding
- · Developing an energy strategy
- Setting a renewable energy target
- Investigating a potential mandatory energy performance certificate or programme for commercial and public buildings
- Establishing a long-term carbon sink
- Developing an Equitable Transitions Strategy to drive a well-signalled and inclusive transition
- Supporting workers, households, and communities to understand, plan and manage the transition
- Establishing a fund to drive behaviour change

The advice and modelling provided by the Climate Change Commission, and the government's first Emissions Reduction Plan, have been used to guide the outcomes of Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa.



We have considered modelling provided by the Climate Change Commission to central government, and central government's 2050 targets, first three emissions budgets, and first Emissions Reduction Plan, to set emissions reduction targets for Hamilton city's emissions. We have also set targets for Hamilton City Council's operational emissions. These targets set the ambition for our climate change response. More information about how we set these targets can be found in the supporting document, 'Setting our emissions reduction targets', on our website.

A key focus area will be developing a low-emissions transport network and system, to support access to active modes of transport and public transport. This is in line with the government's intention to reduce car travel, implement mode-shift plans for urban areas, and set targets for urban areas.

As we work with our community and businesses to better understand the impacts of climate change and the transition to a low-carbon future, we will contribute to an equitable transition.



By developing Hamilton Kirikiriroa into a 20-minute city of compact and connected neighbourhoods, we will support improved urban form. We will integrate emissions reduction into land-use planning through our focus on low-carbon infrastructure and opportunities for renewable energy solutions.

Te Tiriti o Waitangi and Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa

The Climate Commission recommended that central government commit to working in partnership with iwi/Maaori and local government, to develop a strategy to ensure the principles of Te Tiriti of Waitangi are embedded in subsequent emissions reduction plans. In the first Emissions Reduction Plan, central government have outlined that they will support development of a Maaori climate strategy.

Although this government strategy has not yet been delivered, we have followed this advice throughout the development of Our Climate Future, by considering the treaty principles and Council's foundation strategy, <u>He Pou Manawa Ora</u> (Pillars of Wellbeing, see page 32 for further information):

- Partnership Working with iwi and hapuu by engaging with these groups in the strategy development, to ensure that Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa reflects the needs and desires of our Maaori partners. We will continue to work in partnership Maaori as we develop plans for the implementation of the strategy.
- Participation Encouraging and having the need for Maaori to be involved at all levels, including by consulting iwi and hapuu representatives and our internal Amorangi Maaori and Maangai Maaori in strategy decisions and development.
- Protection Safeguarding Maaori cultural concepts, values, and practices by including
 te ao Maaori (the Maaori world view) as a guiding principle for the Our Climate Future:
 Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa. This means that tikanga (cultural practices, traditions) and
 taonga (treasures) are at the heart of our decision-making.
- **Prosperity** Providing equitable support and opportunities for Maaori to improve their economic health alongside all New Zealanders, by ensuring that a just transition is a key element of Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa, and that the strategy enables Council to work alongside and advocate for those most affected by the changing climate.

National Climate Change Risk Assessment for New Zealand: Arotakenga Tuuraru moo te Huringa Aahuarangi o Aotearoa

Under the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act 2019, government must produce a national climate change risk assessment every six years. In response, the Minister for Climate Change must prepare a National Adaptation Plan (see details below).

The first National Climate Change Risk Assessment was completed in August 2020 and identified 43 priority risks. The 10 most significant risks across five domains were²:

Natural environment

- Ongoing sea level rise and extreme weather events pose a risk to coastal ecosystems (intertidal zone, estuaries, dunes, wetlands etc.)
- Climate change enhances survival and spread of invasive species, which is a risk to indigenous ecosystems and species

 $^{^2}$ Ministry for the Environment. 2020. National Climate Change Risk Assessment for Aotearoa New Zealand: Main report – Arotakenga Tūraru mõ te Huringa Āhuarangi o Āotearoa: Pūrongo whakatōpū. Wellington: Ministry for the Environment.

Human

- Climate change impacts will displace individuals, families, and communities, risking social cohesion and community well-being
- Differential distribution of climate change impacts will risk exacerbating existing inequities and creating new inequities

Built environment

- Changes in rainfall, temperature, drought, extreme weather events and sea level rise poses a risk to availability and quality of potable water supply
- Extreme weather events, drought, increased fire weather and sea level rise poses a risk to buildings

Governance

- Not accounting for uncertainty and change over long timeframes results in an increased risk of adverse climate-related outcomes
- Current institutional arrangements that are not fit for adaptation will exacerbate the risk that climate change impacts across all domains

Economy

- Extreme weather events and ongoing, gradual change will incur costs to governments such as lost productivity, disaster relief expenditure, and unfunded contingent liabilities
- Extreme weather events and gradual changes will also risk overall financial instability

The report also highlighted that while all risks are relevant for Maaori, there are some of particular significance to Maaori, potentially affecting Maaori interests, tikanga, and mana (authority, dignity, power). There are some risks that will also have a disproportionate impact on Maaori.

Draft National Adaptation Plan - Te mahere urutaunga aa-motu (tuhinga hukihuki)

The <u>Draft National Adaptation Plan</u> is a response to the first National Climate Change Risk Assessment and sets out how New Zealand will address the 43 priority risks identified in the assessment. At the time of writing, central government was consulting on this draft plan, to which Hamilton City Council has submitted a response.

The draft plan sets out a proposed future work programme, indicating national priorities for 2020-26. It sets three focus areas:

- 1. Reform institutions to be fit for a changing climate
- 2. Provide data, information, and guidance to enable everyone to assess and reduce their own climate risks
- 3. Embed climate resilience across government strategies and policies.

There are then six outcome areas and a number of critical actions required to achieve them:

1. **Natural environment.** This outcome area addresses the pressure the climate change is putting on our land, marine and freshwater ecosystems, and the impacts on our cultural, economic, and spiritual wellbeing. Critical actions include implementing the Department of Conservation's Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan and delivering a collection of actions run by Biosecurity New Zealand.

- 2. Homes, buildings, and places. This outcome area addresses the risks climate change presents to the durability, safety, and cultural and personal value of our homes, marae, urban environments, community spaces and sites of significance such as urupaa (cemeteries, burial sites). Critical actions include building resilience at the property level by supporting households and businesses to assess and respond to climate-related risks and supporting communities to adapt and conserve taonga and cultural assets.
- 3. Infrastructure. This outcome area addresses risks to services we depend on such as energy, telecommunications, transport, water, and waste to help asset owners manage climate risks and continue to deliver the services we depend on as our climate changes. Critical actions include integrating adaptation into the Treasury's investment decision-making processes for infrastructure.
- 4. Communities. This outcome area addresses the risks climate change presents to communities, who may be impacted in different ways. Some are more exposed because of where they are, while others are less able to take action to adapt. Critical actions include ensuring information and advice on disaster resilience is available, accessible, and usable to everyone in our communities, including Maaori and Pasifika, disabled people, people with English as a second language, and people in hard-to-reach areas. Another critical action is developing a Health National Adaptation Plan.
- 5. Economy and financial system. This outcome area focuses on addressing the potential economic cost of climate change to Aotearoa New Zealand, and the risks presented to sectors and businesses, particularly our primary industries, tourism, and distribution networks. Actions to address these issues include supporting high-quality implementation of climate-related financial disclosures and delivering a fisheries system reform.

The draft National Adaptation Plan also identifies how local government is on the front line in preparing for and dealing with climate impacts and risks and highlights the priority to work with Maaori as Treaty partners.

Hamilton's Climate Risk and Infrastructure Assessment

In December 2020 Hamilton City Council commissioned a Climate Risk and Infrastructure Assessment. This report provided some guidance on things to consider, such as:

- Water: The water quality from Waikato River may deteriorate, whilst the demand for drinking water will rise as the temperatures increase. Changing temperatures may impact the biological mechanisms used to treat our wastewater and sewerage.
- Infrastructure: Roads, bridges, buildings, etc. will need to be designed and built with
 the structural integrity to withstand more extreme weather. Existing infrastructure
 may be more vulnerable to extreme weather, leading to more regular maintenance
 and replacements.
- Parks and green spaces: Pest species may be more likely to survive and thrive due to
 changes in temperature and rainfall, leading to increased pest maintenance. These
 conditions may also affect what is planted. Materials and shade for outdoor facilities
 may also need to change, for example providing more shade for children's
 playgrounds so that they are still used in the sun and heat.

Hamilton City Council plans to undertake a detailed risk assessment in 2022/23, using guidance published by the Ministry for the Environment in September 2021. This risk assessment will use the standard approach and will be consistent with the national framework.

The first National Climate Change Risk Assessment and draft National Adaptation Plan, and findings from Hamilton City Council's Climate Risk and Infrastructure Assessment, have informed the development of the Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa.



We will address the risks posed to drinking supply by encouraging sustainable water use and conservation of the Waikato River. Our focus for the risks posed to the natural and built environment will be future proofing existing and new infrastructure to be climate resilient and regenerating our environment to improve resilience of natural areas.

By working with our community groups to improve community resilience, we will mitigate the 'human' risk of climate change and the risk that these impacts will be differentially distributed across our communities.

Local Government Act 2002

The <u>Local Government Act</u> defines the purpose of local government as:

- (a) to enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities;
- (b) to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and in the future.

The Local Government Act does not define what each of these well-beings means; this is up to each individual Council. Hamilton City Council has defined them as:

Paapori (social):

We care for, and about, our people E manaaki ana taatou i oo taatou iwi

Ohaoha (economic):

Our economy provides opportunities to prosper Maa taa taatou oohanga ngaa whai waahitanga e taurikura ai te tangata

Taiao (environmental):

We love and protect our environment E kaingaakau ana, e tautiaki ana taatou i too taatou taiao

Ahurea (cultural):

We celebrate our unique and diverse culture E whakanui ana taatou i too taatou ahurea ahurei, kanorau hoki Hamilton City Council recognises that climate change impacts on all four well-beings, and therefore as a local government we have a responsibility to act upon this. We have applied a climate lens to these four well-beings in Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa and included the guiding principle 'Equitable and holistic – *Kia torowhaanui, kia taurite*' to ensure that our climate actions will deliver to improving the social, cultural, environmental, and economic wellbeing of our community.



Our partnerships with others are key to ensuring that social and cultural wellbeing is promoted. By focusing on 'acting together' to reduce our emissions, we recognise the role of the collective in delivering community-wide change, and that we will need to work with all groups in our diverse community to ensure that the climate actions are delivered.

To improve the economic wellbeing of our community in the face of climate change, we need to ensure that our local economy will continue to grow and provide opportunities for our people to prosper as we transition to a low-carbon way of living. We will support our communities and businesses to respond to climate change, while advocating for those most impacted by the low-carbon transition.



We will continue to provide for social wellbeing – caring for and about our people – by creating a 20-minute city of compact, connected, and healthy neighbourhoods, and supporting community sharing networks. This will reduce emissions and provide other co-benefits. For example, options for more active modes of transport can lead to healthier communities.



Incorporating nature-based solutions when future proofing our infrastructure, will promote environmental wellbeing. We'll also continue improving the resilience of our natural areas and gullies.

Te ao Maaori as a guiding principle

Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa promotes cultural wellbeing, encouraging celebration of our unique and diverse culture, by incorporating the guiding principles of 'Valuing te ao Maaori - Te whakanui i te ao Maaori' and 'Working together – Te mahi ngaatahi'. This means maatauranga Maaori (Maaori knowledge) and tikanga will be ever-present our climate change response, and that we will collaborate with our diverse community groups in responding to climate change.

Resource Management Act (1991) reform

The <u>Resource Management Act 1991</u> (RMA) is the main law governing how people interact with natural resources, and promotes the sustainable use, development, and protection of them. In February 2021, the Government announced it would repeal the RMA and replace it with three new pieces of legislation³:

³ https://environment.govt.nz/what-government-is-doing/key-initiatives/resource-management-system-reform/overview/

- Natural and Built Environments Act: This will be the main replacement, focusing on land use
 and environmental regulation. It will protect and restore the environment while allowing for
 better development.
- Strategic Planning Act: This will provide more integration across the wider resource management system, for example with other relevant legislation like the Local Government Act and Climate Change Response Act. The primary tool for this will be long-term regional spatial plans.
- **Climate Change Adaptation Act:** This will support New Zealand's response to the effects of climate change, and address funding adaptation and managed retreat.

The reform of the RMA is a great opportunity to incorporate our response to climate change into the way we plan for Hamilton city's growth. We have considered how Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa can align with the objectives of the RMA reform to assist with this, and in particular the objectives:

- better preparing for adapting to climate change and risks from natural hazards, and better mitigation of emissions contributing to climate change; and
- better enabling of development within environmental limits.



We will better mitigate emissions contributing to climate change through creating neighbourhoods that enable low-carbon living. This includes focus on sustainable urban intensification, and low-carbon infrastructure and buildings.



We will focus on understanding physical climate risks for Hamilton to ensure we build the right things in the right place and futureproof existing and new infrastructure to be climate resilient. This will help us better prepare for climate change adaptation.

National Policy Statement on Urban Development 2020

Under the RMA, a national policy statement sets the national direction on issues of national importance with relation to sustainable management.

The <u>National Policy Statement on Urban Development 2020</u> (NPS-UD 2020) outlines the policies and objectives for urban development. It aims to ensure that our cities and towns are well-functioning and meet the needs of their diverse communities. It will remove barriers, allowing areas that have good access to existing services, public transport, and infrastructure to grow up and out.

A key component of the NPS-UD 2020 is that Councils will need to enable greater height and density. Buildings within a walkable range from rapid transit stops and city centres can now be six storeys or higher. This should reflect demand and allow people to live closer to public transport and be less reliant on cars.

The NPS-UD 2020 also has wider outcomes, including ensuring that climate change is a particular focus when considering how a city will work for its community. Specifically, Objective 8 of the NPS-UD 2020 states that New Zealand's urban environments:

- (a) support reductions in greenhouse gas emissions; and
- (b) are resilient to the current and future effects of climate change.

While the NPS-UD 2020 has climate change and mode-shift embedded in its outcomes, intensification and increased development often lead to environmental degradation. Therefore, we need to consider how climate-positive urban form can be achieved and have addressed this in Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa.



Setting emissions reduction targets will ensure our city's growth does not equate to increased emissions.



We will consider the climate when designing where, how, and what can be built in Hamilton. This includes creating a 20-minute city of compact and connected neighbourhoods with sustainable urban intensification, and low-carbon infrastructure and buildings

Government Policy Statement on Housing and Urban Development

The <u>Government Policy Statement on Housing and Urban Development</u> (GPS-HUD) provides a shared vision and direction for housing and urban development in Aotearoa New Zealand. The vision is that everyone in Aotearoa New Zealand lives in a home and within a community that meets their needs and aspirations. This will be achieved through a number of outcomes, including one focused on 'thriving and resilient communities' that means everyone is living in communities that meet their needs, and where they have access and are connected to employment, education, and social and cultural opportunities. These communities will:

- Have public transport and active networks at the heart of community and urban development
- Have urban development that supports ecosystem health and improves biodiversity, water quality and air quality
- Be planning, prepared for, and adapting to the effects of climate change
- Have urban design that supports reduced emissions (including building material, construction practices, and whole of life) and resilience to natural hazards

The GPS-HUD recognises that the way we plan and build homes, towns, and cities is critical to meeting the national emissions reduction targets, and to helping us build resilience and adapt to the impacts of a changing climate. We need to reduce transport emissions and the emissions that result from building and operating homes, through significant changes to the way we plan, invest, and develop homes, infrastructure, and places.



We will align with the goal to make public and active modes of transport at the heart of our communities, by creating a low-emissions transport network and system.



We will implement urban design that supports reduced emissions by creating a city of 20-minute neighbourhoods and enabling low-carbon buildings and infrastructure.



Through building the right things in the right place and future proofing our new and existing infrastructure, our urban design will support resilience to natural hazards. We will also support our ecosystems and biodiversity by focussing on regeneration of the natural environment and protection of the Waikato River.

REGIONAL STRATEGIES AND PLANS

On a per capita basis, the Waikato region's gross emissions are higher than the national average⁴. Our region is already experiencing the effects of climate change, and according to projections provided by Ministry for the Environment, these are likely to intensify⁵:

- Compared to 1995, temperatures are likely to be 0.7°C to 1.1°C warmer by 2040 and 0.7°C to 3.1°C warmer by 2090.
- By 2090, the Waikato is projected to have from 10 to 60 extra days per year where maximum temperatures exceed 25°C.
- Rainfall will vary locally within the region. Winter rainfall in Ruakura is projected to increase by 4 to 8 per cent by 2090.
- Some increase in storm intensity, local wind extremes and thunderstorms is likely to occur.
- The frequency of ex-tropical cyclones is projected to either decrease or remain unchanged over the 21st century; however, the ex-tropical cyclones will likely be stronger and cause more damage as a result of heavy rain and strong winds.

Our regional partners recognise that we need to act to reduce emissions and adapt to the changing climate. There are strategies and policies already in place or currently under development to support a regional response to this, and have been considered throughout the development of Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa:

- Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato: Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River
- Tai Tumu, Tai Pari, Tai Ao: Waikato-Tainui Environmental Plan
- Te Rautaki Taamata Ao Turoa o Hauaa: Ngaati Hauaa Environmental Management Plan
- Waikato Tainui Environment Plan 2050
- Regional Land Transport Plan
- Hamilton-Waikato Metro Spatial Plan
- Future Proof Strategy
- Waikato Plan
- Waikato Wellbeing Project
- Waikato Regional Council Climate Action Roadmap

⁴ Climate Roadmap, Waikato Regional Council.

⁵ https://environment.govt.nz/facts-and-science/climate-change/impacts-of-climate-change-per-region/projections-waikato-region/

Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato: Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River

The <u>Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River</u> is the primary direction-setting document for the Waikato River and activities within its catchment affecting the Waikato River. The vision is for:

"A future where a healthy Waikato River sustains abundant life and prosperous communities who, in turn, are all responsible for restoring and protecting the health and wellbeing of the Waikato River, and all it embraces, for generations to come"⁶.

This vision is enabled through the Waikato River Authority and is consistent with the overarching purpose of the settlement between Waikato-Tainui and the Crown to restore and protect the health and wellbeing of the Waikato River. The vision responds to the degradation of the Waikato River and its catchment that has occurred due to human activity, and due to physical intervention, land use, and subsurface hydrological changes that have altered the river's natural processes. It addresses how these actions have severely compromised Waikato River iwi in their ability to exercise mana whakahaere (control, access to, and management of resources) or conduct their tikanga, and have reduced the relationships and aspirations of communities with the Waikato River.

There are a number of objectives for the Waikato River outlined in Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato, which are reflected in Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa. Of particular relevance is the recognition that the Waikato River is degraded and should not be required to absorb further degradation as a result of human activities; protection and enhancement of significant sites, fisheries, flora, and fauna; and recognition that the strategic importance of the Waikato River to New Zealand's social, cultural, environmental and economic wellbeing is subject to the restoration and protection of the health and wellbeing of the Waikato River.

We recognise that Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato sits above all else in the region and that the health of the Waikato River is key to our climate change response.



Reducing our emissions will assist in protecting the Waikato River from further degradation as a result of human activities.



We will regenerate our natural environment to improve the resilience of our gullies, which are intrinsically linked to the Waikato River. We will continue to encourage more sustainable water use and better conservation measures, and work with iwi, to protect the Waikato River.

Due to the location of marae and the relationship with the awa (river), iwi and Maaori tikanga and kawa are at greater risk from the degradation of the Waikato River. We will work to better understand how climate change risks our community's wellbeing advocate for those most impacted by the effects of climate change.

⁶ Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato, Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River, p.4

Tai Tumu, Tai Pari, Tai Ao: Waikato-Tainui Environmental Plan

The Waikato-Tainui Environmental Plan, Tai Tumu Tai Pari Tai Ao, provides guidance on incorporating te ao Maaori and maatauranga Maaori into environmental decision-making, and exercising kaitiakitanga (guardianship, protection, stewardship) over the Waikato-Tainui rohe (area, region). The Plan is part of Whakatupuranga 2050 (Tribal Strategic Plan), a long-term development approach to building the capacity of Waikato-Tainui marae, hapuu, and iwi.

The over-arching purpose of Tai Tumu, Tai Pari, Tai Ao is to:

"Provide a map or pathway that will return the Waikato-Tainui rohe to the modern day equivalent of the environmental state that it was in when Kiingi Taawhiao composed his maimai aroha."

The plan outlines issues, objectives, policies, and methods to guide decision-making on a number of environmental topics, from customary activities to natural hazards, to specific environmental areas. Of greatest relevance to Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa are those focussed on natural heritage and biosecurity, and natural hazards including climate change.

Natural heritage and biosecurity

Waikato-Tainui highlights decreased indigenous biodiversity, impacts to the relationship between Waikato-Tainui and the environment, and inefficient resource development, use, associated activities, and infrastructure risks that are compromising natural heritage. It is important to Waikato-Tainui that the remaining indigenous species are protected from further depletion and other threats to their wellbeing, and that their populations and habitats are enhanced and/or restored. Key objectives to address these issues include:

- The full range of Waikato ecosystem types found throughout the Waikato-Tanui rohe are robust and support representative native flora and fauna.
- Cultural, spiritual, and ecological features of the Waikato landscape that are significant to Waikato-Tainui are protected and enhanced to improve the mauri (life force) of the land.

Natural hazards

Waikato-Tainui recognise that the risk of natural hazards occurring, and the magnitude of their effects, can be exacerbated by inappropriate land use and development, risk management, and climate change. These hazards cause environmental as well as cultural and/or spiritual impacts, and Waikato-Tainui recommend that balance is required between natural 'soft' solutions and 'hard' engineered solutions in response to their management, particularly for areas of significance to Waikato-Tainui or to avoid further adverse effects on the environment. Key objectives to address these issues include:

- Land use and the construction of structures occurs in a way that does not increase the risk or magnitude of a natural hazard event, and that does not increase the risk or effects on human life or activity in the event that a natural hazard event occurs.
- The risk of adverse effects on human, cultural, spiritual, or environmental wellbeing shall be prioritised over risks to individual properties when assessing natural hazard risks and/or the need for hazard protection structures.

⁷ Tai Tumu Tai Pari Tai Ao, Waikato-Tainui Environmental Plan, pg. 16

 The cause and effects of climate change are understood and prepared for within the Waikato-Tainui rohe.

While the Plan is designed to enhance Waikato-Tainui participation in resource and environmental management, it has also provided guidance for Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa, to ensure that our decisions for climate change align with the objectives and policies of Waikato-Tainui's in respect to the environment. The following lines of Kiingi Taawhiao's maimai aroha, regarding the Waikato River and Kirikiriroa Hamilton, have been taken as guidance for the Strategy:

Hoki ake nei au ki tooku awa koiora me ngoona pikonga

He kura tangihia o te maataamuri.

E whakawhiti atu ai i te koopuu maania o Kirikiriroa,

Me ngoona maara kai, te ngaawhaa whakatapu ake o te whenua moomona

The river of life, each curve more beautiful than the last.

Across the smooth belly of Kirikiriroa, its gardens bursting with the fullness of good things.

Through consideration of this vision and including 'Valuing te ao Maaori – *Te whakanui i te ao Maaori*' as a guiding principle in Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa, we will work alongside our iwi and Maaori partners to ensure that our climate response is inclusive and incorporates maatauranga Maaori, to strengthen and maintain the mauri of our environment.

Furthermore, we have aligned with natural heritage and biodiversity and natural hazards objectives from the Waikato-Tainui Environmental Plan in the strategy:



In working to understand and plan for impacts of climate change, we will consider the cultural, spiritual, and ecological features of the Waikato and Hamilton Kirikiriroa landscape that are significant to our communities, including iwi and hapuu.



We will enhance Hamilton's ecosystems and native flora and fauna, by improving the resilience of our natural environment to climate change and encouraging sustainable water use and conservation measures to better protect the Waikato River

We will work to better understand our knowledge of physical climate risks for Hamilton and use this to build the right things in the right place and educate our community. This aligns with the Waikato-Tainui objective to understand and prepare for the effects of climate change in the Waikato-Tainui robe

Te Rautaki Taamata Ao Turoa o Hauaa: Ngaati Hauaa Environmental Management Plan

Te Rautaki Taamata Ao Turoa o Hauaa: Ngaati Hauaa Environmental Management Plan expresses and articulates the values, frustrations, aspirations, and position statements of Ngaati Hauaa in relation to the environment. It includes guidance on priority projects to carry out and their expectation for consultation by others. The plan aims to enable Ngaati Hauaa to exercise their responsibilities as kaitiaki (guardians, stewards) and in particular to ensure that they are able to:

- Restore the mauri of their taiao (environment)
- Swim in, drink from, and gather food from their rivers and streams
- Provide for the cultural, social, and economic wellbeing of their people
- Revitalise their traditional knowledge and practices
- Build the capacity of their future kaitiaki

The policies and actions included in the plan relate to:

- Sustainable land use development The plan highlights how development and use of land has not always been sustainable, and that urban development is increasing pressure on natural resources, affecting plants, animals, and indigenous biodiversity. Furthermore, there have been impacts on the ability to use and develop underutilised Maaori land, and inadequate recognition of Ngaati Hauaa values and maatauranga. Ngaati Hauaa outline an integrated approach to sustainable use, development, and management of land, how they will manage the potential effects of land use and develop and revitalise maatauranga.
- Aspirations for use and development of lands Ngaati Hauaa outline that there has been inadequate recognition of their values, interests, and relationships with marae, urupaa and ancestral lands, and remaining lands are fragmented. Deteriorating marae infrastructure and facilities may be vulnerable to climate change impacts and there is a shortage of affordable housing for their people. The plan outlines how they will provide for a range of uses and activities on Maaori land, and for the productive and sustainable use of Maaori land. This includes taking steps to prepare for and adapt to the effects of climate change, such as ensuring a secure and reliable water supply and raising awareness and understanding of the issue.
- Te wai Maaori Water Ngaati Hauaa recognise multiple issues facing the health and wellbeing of waterbodies. This includes inadequate recognition of maatauranga with regards to rivers, streams and aquifiers; the impact of land activities on water; and the limited amount of water and increasing pressures on water resources, among others. Their policies focus on restoring the mauri of freshwater through a holistic and integrated approach; equitable and efficient water allocation; avoiding further degradation of water quality; and building traditional and contemporary knowledge of water.
- Ngaa Repo Wetlands The plan outlines how wetlands can be protected from further degradation, and how Ngaati Hauaa will work with others to increase the extent of wetlands.
- He Mahinga Kai Fisheries The plan outlines how freshwater fisheries are not as
 abundant as they previously were, due to degradation of habitat, invasive species, and
 commercial fishing. It also notes that there is a disconnection of people from these sites, due
 to restricted access. Policies outline how access to freshwater fish species can be enhanced,
 how fisheries can be protected, how they can be restored and sustained, and how
 associated cultural practices can be revitalised.

- Te Ararangi Air Ngaati Hauaa recognise that there are activities within the rohe that contribute to poor air quality, such as industrial air discharges and vehicle emissions, which are anticipated to worsen due to population growth, development, and land intensification. Their policies outline how they will manage activities that contribute to poor air quality; manage activities so that celestial landmarks can be seen; and build traditional and contemporary knowledge about air and celestial landmarks.
- **Cultural heritage** The plan focuses on how Ngaati Hauaa cultural heritage can be protected from the impacts of land development, for example by managing the potential effects of land disturbance activities such as earthworks on cultural heritage, and by working with others to protect, manage, and/or restore waahi tapu (sacred and valued sites/areas).
- Customary activities The plan recognises that the impacts of others and of activities has affected areas for customary activities. It outlines how Ngaati Hauaa will manage the potential effects of land use and development on customary activities and enable the revitalisation of traditional knowledge and practices associated with these activities.
- Kaitiaki Ngaa Hauaa Tangata Ngaati Hauaa recognise that they are guardians of the
 environment and have a responsibility to care for it. The plan outlines how they will build
 capacity and capability, form effective working relationships with others, be actively
 involved in and influence resource management processes and decisions, and lead or be
 involved in environmental restoration projects.

While the policies and actions are primarily aimed at Regional and District Councils, they have been considered in the development of Hamilton City Council's strategy, Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa.



We will focus on developing a low-emissions transport network and system, and support businesses with emissions reduction efforts, which will contribute to improving air quality in the region.

We will align with Ngaati Hauaa objectives regarding cultural heritage through better understanding the impacts of climate change for our community. We will empower our communities to respond to climate change and advocate for those most impacted by the effects.



Sustainable land use development will be supported by creating a 20-minute city of compact, connected, and healthy neighbourhoods and sustainable infill development.



environment (with particular focus on the Waikato River), we will continue working to mitigate the impacts of urban development on natural resources, plants, animals, and indigenous biodiversity.

The principles that will guide our actions and decision-making throughout implementation of the strategy, include 'Valuing te ao Maaori – Te whakanui i te ao Maaori', 'Working together – Te mahi ngaatahi', and considering maatauranga Maaori as part of our bold and informed approach ('Bold and Informed – Kia whai kaha, kia maarama!'). This is in alignment with the Ngaati Hauaa Environmental Management Plan, and their aspirations to revitalise their traditional knowledge and practices and build the capacity of future kaitiaki.

Regional Land Transport Plan 2021-51

The <u>Regional Land Transport Plan 2021-51</u> (RLTP) has been developed by the Waikato Regional Transport Committee. It outlines the strategic direction for land transport in the Waikato region over the next 30 years. The vision is for land transport to be an integrated, safe, and resilient transport system that delivers on the wellbeing of the diverse Waikato communities. The plan has three strategic objectives:

- Strategic corridors and economic development
- Road safety
- Access and mobility

These objectives and all decision-making in the RLTP are informed by two underpinning objectives: integrate land use and transport planning, which ensures collaborative, spatial-based approaches to decision-making drive the best outcomes for communities; and climate change and environmental sustainability, which ensures that transport plays it role in delivering an energy efficient, resilient, and low carbon, sustainable future.

The RLTP also includes climate-related targets:

- Reduce carbon emissions from the transport sector by a minimum of 30% by 2030 (from 2018/19 levels), on the path to net zero by 2050
- Trips per capita by public transport and active modes significantly increase year on year, while trips per capita by private motor vehicle decrease.

As these objectives and targets show, climate change is now at the forefront of transport decision-making in the region. This is a great opportunity to incorporate our response to climate change into the way we plan for Hamilton's transport network and system. We have considered how Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa can align with the objectives of the RLTP to ensure the momentum results in the urgent action required.



With transport emissions making up the largest share of our city's emissions profile, we will contribute to the emissions target set by the RLTP as we work towards our own emissions reduction targets.

In collaboration with national, regional, and community partners, we will focus on creating a low-emissions transport network and system that supports walking, biking, and scooting, public transport, and zero-emissions vehicles for those trips that require a car.

Regional Public Transport Plan 2018-28

Waikato Regional Council is responsible for the planning management and provision of public transport across the Waikato region.

The <u>Waikato Regional Public Transport Plan (RPTP) 2018-2028</u> sets out the priorities and the needs of public transport services and infrastructure to be delivered in the Waikato over the 10 years of the plan. It was prepared in partnership with territorial authorities and key stakeholders from a wide range of sectors. The plan provides a means for councils, transport operators and stakeholders to work together to develop and improve public transport services and infrastructure in the region, while enabling public input into the design and operation of the public transport network.

The vision for the plan is to build a public transport system that enhances the vitality of our communities, strengthens our economy, and helps create a healthier environment.

The objectives of the plan are to:

- Deliver a layered network of public transport services that meet a diverse range of travel needs
- Transition to a mass-transit-oriented network over time
- Provide the infrastructure necessary for an accessible, effective and efficient public transport network
- Provide high quality and intuitive public information
- Provide a fares and ticketing system that is easy to use and affordable for passengers
- Provide public transport services that are affordable for passengers and funders
- Develop and maintain partnerships that obtain best value for money in the delivery of transport solutions.

At the time of writing, Waikato Regional Council are consulting on the Draft 2022-2032 Regional Public Transport Plan, to which Hamilton City Council has submitted a response.

Future Proof Strategy

<u>Future Proof</u>, Te Tau Tiitoki, is a joint project that considers how the sub-region (made up of Hamilton City Council, Waipa District Council and Waikato District Council) should develop into the future, and the issues that affect us now and will affect us over the next 30 years.

The <u>Future Proof Strategy</u> is a 30-year growth management and implementation plan, which follows guiding principles across six areas:

- 1. Effective partnerships, leadership, and implementation
- 2. Vibrant city centre connected to thriving towns, villages, and rural communities
- 3. Protection of natural environments
- 4. Affordable and sustainable resource use
- 5. Productive partnerships with taangata whenua/mana whenua
- 6. Sustainable resource use and climate resilience

The sixth guiding principle is especially relevant to the development of Hamilton City Council's strategy, Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa, as it focuses on water quality and efficient water use, planning activities that reduce emissions and build climate resilience, and a radical shift in land use and transport planning that prioritises the health and well-being of the Waikato River.



We will play our part in a radical shift in transport planning through the creation of a transport network and system that supports low-emissions travel options.

Our city-wide emissions reduction targets will ensure that growth does not stop us from mitigating the effects of climate change.



We will consider emissions as a priority as our city grows. Our city planning will prioritise sustainable urban intensification within Hamilton's existing built environment, to realise the low-carbon benefits that this can bring.



Futureproofing existing and new infrastructure will help to build climate resilience in our asset management planning activities.

Hamilton-Waikato Metro Spatial Plan

The <u>Hamilton-Waikato Metro Spatial Plan</u> is delivered as part of the Future Proof partnership. It focuses on how we can best plan for the longer-term, to maintain and improve our liveability through the way we grow and how we move around.

The vision for the Hamilton-Waikato metro area is to be a highly liveable and sought-after place to live in New Zealand, with the metro area a place where our people can easily access employment, education, and health facilities, and serviced by reliable and efficient transport connections and great places.

Some key objectives of the plan that have been considered in the development of Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa, are:

- Improve access to employment, education, and services.
- Assist emission reductions and build climate resilience.
- Enable quality-built environments, whilst avoiding unnecessary urban sprawl.
- Enhancing the quality of the natural and built environments and the vitality of Hamilton (and Auckland) and the communities within the Hamilton to Auckland (H2A) corridor.

The Metro Spatial Plan also includes the following indicators to measure success, that are relevant to our climate change strategy:

- Transport emissions in the metro area are reducing per capita.
- The health and wellbeing of the Waikato River and its catchment within the metro area is improving year on year.
- The proportion of the metro area population living within 30 minutes of work, education and other services is increasing by using a range of modes.
- The proportion of trips being made by public transport and active modes (walking and cycling) is increasing.



As 64% of our city's emissions profile in 2018/19, transport represents a key opportunity to achieve our emission reduction targets. This aligns directly with the Metro Spatial Plan objectives and indicators, and we recognise that we'll need to work with others, including our regional partners, to achieve them.



Creating 20-minute neighbourhoods will mean that people can live locally by meeting most of their daily needs walking from their home, in pleasant surroundings, and with safe, easy access to other parts of the city by biking, using micro-mobility, or public transport. This will improve accessibility and increase the proportion of trips made by public transport and active modes.

We will also focus on sustainable urban intensification within Hamilton's existing built environment.



Through improving the climate resilience of our natural environment, and encouraging sustainable water use and conservation measures to protect the Waikato River, we will enhance the quality of our taiao and awa.

Waikato Plan

The Waikato Plan is a 30-year plan for the region, created by Waikato councils, central governments, and other private and public agencies, which provides a united voice for the region to central government and others. It is designed to help co-ordinate and guide decision-making and investment on complex issues such as population change, transport, water, economic development, and the environment.

The Waikato Plan aims to 'Build champion communities, together', and has identified five priorities to achieve this which reflect the most important matters facing the region and the greatest opportunities for positive change. The five priorities are:

- 1. People Planning for population change
- 2. Connections Connecting our communities through targeted investment
- 3. Iwi/Maaori Partnering with iwi/Maaori
- 4. Environment Addressing water allocation and quality
- 5. Economy Advancing regional economic development

The issues highlighted in the Waikato Plan, and the priorities and actions to address them, are all implicated by climate change. Therefore, the Waikato Plan has been considered when developing Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa.



Our city-wide emissions reduction targets will mean our emissions decrease, even as our population changes and our city grows. We will play our part in advancing the economic development of the region by understanding the impacts of the impacts of the low-carbon transition on our economy, and how best to support our businesses and community through the change. This will help our economy to continue to grow throughout the low-carbon transition.



Our plans to become a 20-minute city of compact, connected, and healthy neighbourhoods, and to support community sharing networks to reduce emissions and enable other co-benefits, will encourage connected communities.



Water allocation and quality is likely to be impacted by the effects of climate change. We will address this by supporting the natural environment to be climate resilient and encouraging more sustainable water use and conversation measures to protect the Waikato River.

Waikato Wellbeing Project

The <u>Waikato Wellbeing Project</u> is a community-led, regional initiative to achieve a more environmentally sustainable, prosperous, and inclusive Waikato by 2030.

The Project has 10 targets based on the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, all to be achieved by 2030:

- 1. Have less than 1% of children living below the poverty line
- 2. Rates of non-communicable diseases and mental illness are reduced, and associated health equity for target groups is improved
- 3. The number of young people who are not in education, employment or training is less than 5%
- 4. At least 80% of rivers and 80% of lakes are swimmable
- 5. There are no people experiencing energy hardship
- 6. Reducing housing shortfall so all people are well housed
- 7. There is 50% reduction in waste to landfill (waste from houses, schools, businesses, and farms)
- 8. Carbon emissions are reduced by at least 25% by 2030 and on the path to net carbon zero by 2050

- 9. Maintain or enhance the mauri of coastal and marine waters to ensure healthy ecosystems
- 10. Prevent loss of indigenous vegetation, and increase indigenous habitat in biodiversity depleted environments by at least 10%

Achieving these targets will mean that our region has healthy environments, vibrant communities, and a strong economy, which aligns with the outcomes of Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa.



Our emissions reduction targets will contribute towards the targets set by the Waikato Wellbeing Project.

We will focus on embedding circular economy principles in all activities, which will reduce waste to landfill from houses, schools, and businesses.



Supporting community sharing networks for energy reduces emissions but also enables other co-benefits, such as reducing energy hardship and inequalities in our communities.



In supporting the natural environment of Hamilton Kirikiriroa to be climate resilient, we will prevent the loss of indigenous vegetation and improve biodiversity depleted environments.

As we transition to low-carbon living and experience more impacts of climate change, there is a risk that some parts of our community will be further disadvantaged – for example those who are unable to access or afford energy efficient homes or clean energy. We will use our understanding of how climate change risks our community's wellbeing and existing inequalities advocate for those who are most impacted by these changes, ensure our community is thriving in our future climate.

Waikato Regional Council Climate Action Roadmap: He mahere aarai aahuarangi In their <u>Climate Action Roadmap</u>, Waikato Regional Council recognise that the Waikato rohe is already experiencing the effects of a changing climate, and that this presents urgent risks to our economy, people, property, and environment.

The Climate Action Roadmap identifies nine pathways to reduce emissions and adapt to the changing climate:

- 1. **Coastal resilience** To reduce the risk of climate-exacerbated natural hazards on the coastal environment and communities and manage the impacts of sea level rise.
- 2. **Agriculture and soil** To work with the agricultural sector to develop integrated approaches to reduce emissions, increase biodiversity and improve water quality.
- 3. **Water is life** To ensure fresh water is valued and communities understand how to make the most of every drop using smart ways to capture, store, use and recycle water.
- 4. **Habitat restoration and planting** To proactively identify areas for restoration and planting that will deliver climate-related benefits, provide the best return for freshwater quality and habitat for native species, and support community resilience and safety.

- 5. **Future of transport** To reduce the exposure of the sector to the increasing costs of carbon emissions and enable the transition to low emission transport fuels in a changing climate.
- 6. **Sustainable investment** To support investments that are underpinned by sustainability principles and reduce investments with high climate change risk exposure.
- 7. **Biodiversity and biosecurity** To apply strategies to improve biodiversity at risk from climate change, reduce pest incursion and expansion, and support inter-regional and central government commitment.
- 8. **Drainage and flood management** To determine the extent to which current infrastructure and flood protection schemes are fit for purpose and respond accordingly.
- 9. **Energy** To facilitate access, development and use of renewable energy sources within the region and displace the need for non-renewable energy resources.

These pathways highlight how the wider region faces different challenges and opportunities compared to Hamilton City. For example, 69% of the Waikato's emissions are generated by agriculture and forestry removes 44% of the region's carbon, whereas only 1% of Hamilton city's emissions are attributed to agriculture, forestry, and other lands. Only 16% of the region's emissions are generated by transport, but for Hamilton this is our primary source of emissions, representing 64%.

However, we are all working towards similar outcomes for our communities and our response to the changing climate will be strengthened by working together.



We will support others (including Waikato Regional Council and the Climate Action Roadmap) to reduce emissions through partnerships such as the Waikato Plan, Future Proof, Hamilton Climate Accord, etc.

In making Hamilton a 'centre of excellence' for climate response innovation, we can assist our regional partners to develop integrated approaches that will reduce emissions in different sectors.



We will enable biodiversity and biosecurity in the Waikato region by supporting

Our focus on encouraging more sustainable water use and better conservation measures, and working with iwi to protect the Waikato River, will ensure fresh water is valued and communities understand how to make the most of every drop.

HAMILTON CITY COUNCIL STRATEGIES AND PLANS

The community of Hamilton Kirikiriroa, and particularly the voices of our rangatahi (youth), are calling on Council for real, urgent change. Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa will address this by driving action across all areas of Hamilton City Council business, to form the city's climate response.

Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa is a foundation strategy for Hamilton City Council, meaning that it underpins our organisation, guiding decisions and behaviours, and influencing other strategies and plans. As such, there are a number of strategies and plans already developed or currently under review, that will influence the strategy or enable its implementation, and have been considered in its development:

- He Pou Manawa Ora Pillars of Wellbeing
- Nature in the City
- Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2018-2024
- Infrastructure Strategy 2021-51
- River Plan
- Housing Strategy
- Open Spaces Plan
- Access Hamilton (Transport Strategy) refresh
- Hamilton Urban Growth Strategy refresh
- District Plan review

He Pou Manawa Ora - Pillars of Wellbeing

He Pou Manawa Ora is a foundation strategy for Hamilton City Council, that outlines our vision for a city that celebrates its whole history, including its unique Maaori heritage, and ensures everyone has a voice in developing its future. Much like the outcomes of Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa, we will need to work together with our Maaori partners and the whole community to deliver the outcomes of He Pou Manawa Ora.

The four pou (pillars) of wellbeing that have been identified to deliver on our collective aspirations for the city, and on the principles of the Treaty, are:

- He Pou Manawa Koorero Pillar of History
- He Pou Toorangapuu Maaori Pillar of Unity
- He Pou Manawa Taurikura Pillar of Prosperity
- He Pou Manawa Taiao Pillar of Restoration

He Pou Manawa Koorero – Pillar of History: This reminds us of the value of our unique history of language, people, place, and our commitment to acknowledge and respect our different values and qualities.

We have incorporated to an Maaori as a guiding principle for the climate change strategy, Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa. In doing so, we acknowledge and respect the value that Maaori knowledge can bring to, and that is a crucial part of, our climate change response. We have also used the description of the Waikato River and Kirikiriroa Hamilton as seen by Kiingi Taaiwhiao as a reference point for the strategy, to honour the connection that Maaori/mana whenua have to the land, the value of this connection, and the value of this history and the land itself. By translating the title of the strategy to te reo Maaori and incorporating a whakataukii (proverb), we not only normalise the use of the language, but again acknowledge the connection that mana whenua have to Hamilton Kirikiriroa.

He Pou Toorangapuu Maaori – Pillar of Unity: This gives recognition to Maaori values, knowledge, and aspirations, recognising that Maaori are equal partners and contributors to the wellbeing of people, place, environment, and our shared future.

We have incorporated He Pou Toorangapuu Maaori by embedding Maaori cultural considerations and the Principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi in the strategy. We have included maatauranga Maaori as a vital part of our guiding principle 'Bold and informed – *Kia whai kaha, kia maarama!'*, to recognise this valuable insight that has been continually tested and updated over time.

To recognise that Maaori are equal partners and contributors to our shared future, staff held engagement session with iwi and Maaori partners in developing Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa. The purpose of these engagements was to gain iwi and Maaori views on the draft strategy, to ensure that the final version accurately interpreted and reflects the feedback of our iwi and Maaori partners.

He Pou Manawa Taurikura – Pillar of Prosperity: This provides safety, security, and opportunity for individuals, whaanau, and communities to live their best lives and prosper spiritually and economically.



Using our knowledge of how climate change risks our community's wellbeing and existing inequalities, will mean that all individuals, whaanau, and members of our community are able to prosper in our future climate.

By advocating for those most impacted by the changing climate and low-carbon transition, including Maaori, we will support the safety, security, and opportunity of our communities.

He Pou Manawa Taiao – Pillar of Restoration: This reminds us of our connection to, reliance on, and responsibility to care for, the natural and physical world.



Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa recognises the role of Maaori as kaitiaki of our environment, and that we will need to partner with iwi/mana whenua to protect and enhance Hamilton Kirikiriroa, especially the Waikato River.

Nature in the City Strategy

Hamilton's Nature in the City Strategy sets the long-term vision for restoring and caring for Hamilton's natural environment. The vision is that nature thrives in Kirikiriroa Hamilton and nurtures us where we are. The strategy sets a goal of achieving 10% native vegetation cover in Hamilton Kirikiriroa by 2050.

In November 2021, Council launched the first programme plan outlining how we'll kickstart the vision for Nature in the City, starting with the next three years and focus on:

- Enhance nature at Donny Park and create better access to it.
- Begin pest control and plant restoration at Te awa o Katipaki.
- Begin pest control and plant restoration at Mangakotukutuku.
- Start baseline monitoring in our natural areas, to measure progress.
- Launch a multi-agency working group for expert guidance.
- Identify new planting opportunities.
- Educate Hamiltonians on the importance of nurturing nature in our city.
- Increase our number of nature-loving volunteers.



The vision and objectives of Nature in the City will help us in supporting the natural environment to be climate resilient.

Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2018-2024

The <u>Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2018-24</u> sets the goals, objectives and targets for waste avoidance, reduction, and recovery in Hamilton.

The vision is for Hamilton to be a place where waste minimisation and resource recovery are an integral part of our lifestyle and economy.

There are five goals (below) and 33 actions in the plan, focused on services, partnerships, events, education, litter and illegal dumping, grants, data, council management, and regulation.

- Reduce quantity of all material entering the waste stream, and increase resource recovery
- Increase innovation and opportunity from waste resources
- Hamilton community is a leader in waste minimisation
- Waste and resource recovery infrastructure meets Hamilton's growing needs
- Recognise and celebrate innovation in waste minimisation and avoidance



Waste makes up 3% of our city's emissions profile. We will focus on embedding circular economy principles in all activities and alignment with the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan to do this.

Infrastructure Strategy 2021-51

The purpose of the <u>Infrastructure Strategy 2021-51</u> is to identify significant infrastructure challenges over the next 30 years, to identify the principal options for managing those challenges and the implications of those options.

It outlines Council's approach to managing and investing infrastructure for the six categories:

- Water
- Wastewater
- Stormwater
- Transport
- Parks and open spaces
- Community and event facilities

Climate change and related requirements and expectations are identified as a key external impact, and the strategy includes focus areas related to emissions reduction and improving resilience:

- Protect and restore our natural gully network and the biodiversity of the city to increase how green our city is, making it healthier and stronger
- Reduce the carbon footprint of the city and build a city that is resilient to the effects of climate change



Both new and existing infrastructure will need to be designed and built to withstand more extreme weather, so we have included a focus area in our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa on future proofing and planning for infrastructure to be climate resilient. This includes restoring and regenerating the natural environment to improve the resilience of our gullies.

Hamilton City River Plan

The <u>Hamilton City River Plan</u> is a 30-year vision for the river, to guide how we plan and use the river into the future. The vision is that the Waikato River will be the defining heart of Hamilton.

There are four principles: people, economic opportunity, healthy river, and cultural celebration.

The vision and principles are underpinned by six themes:

- Access Improving access to along and across the river
- Recreation Promoting the enjoyment of the river
- Tourism Promoting and developing tourism along the river
- Development Promoting development that embraces the river
- Arts and Culture Celebrating arts and culture along the river
- Natural environment Protecting and enhancing the natural environment along the river



Through Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa, we'll focus on encouraging more sustainable water use and better conservation measures to protect the Waikato River. This is in alignment with the 'natural environment' theme of the Hamilton City River Plan.

Housing Strategy

The vision of our <u>Housing Strategy</u> is that every person in Kirikiriroa is well-housed, living in sustainable, flourishing, and connected communities. It is about making sure all Hamiltonians can live in good quality homes that they can afford.

The strategy has four high-level goals to work towards the vision:

- 1. Hamilton Kirikiriroa has a well-functioning housing system
- 2. Our homes are good quality and protect the health and wellbeing of our people
- 3. Our homes meet the diverse needs of our communities
- 4. Our housing system and urban form supports sustainable, resilient, and connected communities



By focussing on the creation of a 20-minute city with sustainable infill development, our urban form will support communities to be sustainable, resilient and connected.



A well-functioning housing system is crucial to an equitable and fair transition, particularly as climate change increasingly impacts where and how people live in their homes. We will use knowledge of how climate change risks our community's wellbeing and existing inequalities, to support and align with the goals of the Housing Strategy.

Open Space Plan

The Open Space Plan sets the 50-year direction to guide future planning, development, management and maintenance Hamilton's parks and open spaces. The vision is that "Our open space network connects communities and is valued by our people".

There are eight goals outlined in the plan:

- Hamilton's green identity is upheld
- Open spaces meet the constantly changing needs of our people
- Open spaces are enhanced by community partnerships
- Open spaces bring people together and celebrate our cultures and historic heritage
- Our open spaces network is world class
- Open spaces are safe, well designed and distinctly Hamilton
- Ecosystems and biodiversity are understood, protected, and restored
- Open spaces are accessible, connected and make Hamilton easy to get around



We will ensure that the natural environment is supported to be climate resilient, thereby protecting and restoring our open spaces.

We recognise that open spaces, ecosystems, and biodiversity are crucial to our communities' environmental wellbeing and their ability to thrive in our future climate.

Currently under review

Access Hamilton (Transport Strategy)

Access Hamilton, Hamilton's transport strategy, was refreshed at the same time as Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa was developed. In recognition that transport is the primary source of our emissions, the two were developed in close alignment. The refresh of Access Hamilton is expected to be completed in 2022.

Hamilton Urban Growth Strategy

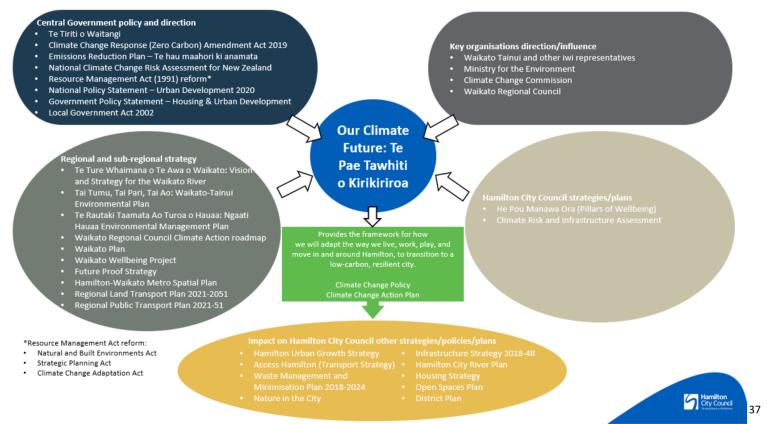
Hamilton Urban Growth Strategy (HUGS) sets the spatial vision for our city and outlines how growth is managed. At the time of Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa development, HUGS was being reviewed and refreshed. This refresh aims to set out how and where Hamilton will grow over the next 50 years, with a focus on people and communities. In recognition that our growth needs to mitigate the impacts of climate change and ensure climate resilience for our people and places, there has been close alignment between the HUGS refresh and development of the outcomes in Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa.

District Plan

The <u>District Plan</u>, a statutory planning document of Council, is the rule book guiding how we plan and zone the city. At the time of writing Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa, our District Plan was being reviewed to reflect the changes required by the National Policy Statement on Urban Development. The two have been completed in alignment, as we understand that the way we develop urban form must play a role in mitigating and adapting to climate change.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

As a foundation strategy, the Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa will support and/or influence (to a larger or lesser degree) most of the strategies and plans at Council and should be considered during their development and review. He Pou Manawa Ora is another foundation strategy and has therefore helped to inform the climate change strategy. The following diagram illustrates where and how this strategy fits within the wider council strategic framework.



OUR CLIMATE FUTURE: TE PAE TAWHITI O KIRIKIRIROA

Supporting document

Communication and engagement context



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INTRODUCTION

Hamilton City Council has engaged with our local community on multiple occasions, to gain an understanding of their thoughts and views on climate change. While not all specific to the development of the climate change strategy, Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa, these engagement pieces have provided clear guidance for how we should respond to the challenge of climate change.

This document provides an overview of these engagement pieces, and how they have influenced Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa. An explanation of each engagement is provided, and the illustration signals which strategy outcome area it relates to. The outcome areas are:



COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENTS

Establishing the Environment Committee

In 2019 the Environment Committee was established, in response to the interest from the community on climate change and the environment. This provides a platform for environmental/climate change discussions to take place at an elected member level and gives the community opportunity to talk directly to elected members on the issues that they are concerned about.

Climate Strike for Future and other youth engagements

Students across Hamilton have voiced their desire for Council to respond to the climate crisis on multiple occasions, including a Climate Strike for Future protest, rallies, and tree planting events, as well as emails and a petition delivered to Council. Throughout these engagements we heard that the youth of Hamilton wanted Council to recognise that urgent action is needed to safeguard the future of Hamiltonians, our biodiversity, and our city.

While Council has not declared a climate emergency, there was a commitment to develop Climate Change Action Plans for the city. This kick-started Council's climate change response, including the development of this strategy.

Our youth are passionate about climate change – it is their future on the line, and they have to live with the impacts of a changing climate. An equitable transition is key in Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa, and we'll work alongside our rangatahi (young people) and others to advocate for those most impacted by the climate crisis and to collaborate on projects.

Climate Change Action Plans

In response to the community's call, Hamilton City Council agreed to develop a yearly Climate Change Action Plan for the city. Action Plans have been developed for 2020/21 and 2021/22¹ and outline:

- the emissions profile of the city and of Hamilton City Council,
- corporate emissions reduction targets for Hamilton City Council,
- a roadmap to achieve these targets, and
- what actions are underway and in development to respond to the changing climate.

Through the work undertaken for the Climate Change Action Plans, we understand that transport is a key contributor to our city's emissions. There are already multiple projects underway to address this and it is a focus area of the Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa to ensure that these efforts continue and are further intensified.



We will focus on reducing emissions from transport, through creating a low-emissions transport network and system.

¹ The 2020/21 and 2021/22 Climate Change Action Plans can be found on our website.

Climate Change Engagement Reports

Businesses and organisations report, May 2020

Hamilton City Council commissioned Creativate to lead climate change engagement interviews with businesses and organisations, to hear their struggles, successes, and strategies in climate impact. This involved online interviews with representatives from 10 key organisations across five sectors in Hamilton. The organisations were:

- Wintec
- University of Waikato
- Ministry of Education
- NZ Police Hamilton
- Waikato District Health Board (DHB)
- Fonterra
- Dairy Goat Co-operative
- Gallagher
- Stark Property
- WEL Networks

The interviews found that there are already diverse capabilities across these organisations, and there is an openness to sharing these and learning from each other's skills of:

- Building low-climate-impact developments
- Refurbishing existing developments for low climate-impact
- Optimising building management systems
- Accessing funding for climate improvements
- Waste minimisation
- Public engagement with climate impact
- Measurement of carbon footprint and climate impact
- Photovoltaic energy adoption
- Micro-grid technologies
- Staff engagement for climate impact
- Repurposing waste streams

While the majority of respondents were not actively measuring their climate impact, there was a strong internal drive towards sustainability, which was only increasing with the younger workforce. Respondents were already encouraging alternative modes of transport for their staff and stakeholders, with particular focus on cycle ways, using the Waikato River as a transport route, and minimising the number of vehicles on the roads. The main challenge faced by respondents was a lack of capital for replacing aging infrastructure such as older, energy inefficient buildings and heating systems.

All respondents were willing or very willing to participate in a discussion group focussed on minimising Hamilton city's climate impact. They perceived Hamilton City Council as playing a role in leading climate initiatives for the city.

Community groups report, July 2020

In partnership with Creativate, Go Eco facilitated a workshop with community groups to understand key climate insights from Hamiltonians. This workshop focussed on three questions based on te ao Maaori (the Maaori world view) and the Waikato-Tainui Environment Plan, Tai Tumu, Tai Pari, Tai Ao. These questions and key findings are outlined below.

How does te ao Maaori and Tai Tumu, Tai Pari, Tai Ao inform our climate action?

- Climate action needs to understand and integrate Tai Tumu, Tai Pari, Tai Ao as any climate
 action does not exist in isolation and should build on the plan already developed by Waikato
 Tainui.
- Climate action needs to focus on long-term regeneration and restoration, not just sustaining current levels. The Waikato Tainui Environment Plan plans now for 2050 and Hamilton's climate action should align with this.
- Climate action needs to recognise that te ao Maaori is a fundamental perspective for change, with Maaori concepts and practices to be the frame of reference when considering what can be done, how actions will be measured, what methods will be used and how science is adopted.

What role or position does the community and/or NGO sector have in climate action?

- Climate action needs to recognise the role of the collective in delivering community-wide change – while direction from Hamilton City Council is needed, our community should be involved in the change rather than having it delivered on their behalf. This will allow for community members and groups to work together instead of in fragmented sections.
- Climate action should include models and examples from the community, to motivate and encourage further community leadership. By showcasing the previous successes and strategies of others, our community can learn from these behaviours and lead the way.
- Climate action needs to recognise that Hamiltonians have a key role to play and should promote Hamiltonians' civic duty to act responsibly towards to the environment and honour Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

What should be the priority for the NGO and community sector in the next five years?

- Climate action needs to focus on resourcing existing community groups and projects, rather
 than solely launching new initiatives. Combining the resources of councils and corporate
 organisations with the expertise and energy of existing groups will lead to stronger
 outcomes.
- Climate action needs to prioritise education to ensure meaningful, sustainable change not just for young people in formal settings but for all.
- Climate action needs to lead to real change in order to make a difference. This could be through events, legislation, and resourcing.

With many Hamilton organisations ready to take action on climate change, and the breadth of experience and capabilities identified in our community, we have made 'Working together – Te mahi ngaatahi' a guiding principle of Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa. We have also included another guiding principle of 'Valuing te ao Maaori – Te whakanui i te ao Maaori' and considered Tai Tumu, Tai Pari, Tai Ao (Waikato-Tainui Environment Plan) in developing the strategy, to acknowledge and respect that te ao Maaori and maatauranga Maaori (Maaori knowledge) are a crucial part of our climate change response.



We will focus on working with industry to support their emissions reduction and have already started work on the Climate Accord, a group made up of local businesses and organisations who will champion positive climate action. We'll also provide education and tools to our community and businesses on reducing emissions, so that everyone can be involved in these efforts.



Supporting community sharing networks for food, energy, good, and services, to reduce emissions and enable other co-benefits, will be key – there are already community groups leading the way in this space who we can learn from. This will give everyone the opportunity to participate in low-carbon living.



We will focus on educating and empowering our communities, while advocating for those most impacted by climate change and the transition to a low-carbon future.

Consultation on the Long-Term Plan

We held a number of consultations throughout 2019/2020 to inform and gain feedback on the Council's draft 2021-31 Long-Term Plan and our five priorities for Hamilton.

The first conversation focussed on what Hamiltonians love about our city and what makes them proud of Hamilton. The feedback was captured via Your Neighbourhood events and live illustrations, social media, and 'pulse' Quality of Life surveys. Some key themes included:

- Love and recognition of the value of our river, trees, and birdlife
- Green spaces, walkways, and playgrounds create healthy people and options for families
- Accessible, affordable transport options and housing
- A close and connected city with walkways and cycleways
- A forward-thinking city with a growing tech industry and improving transport links

We also asked what our community thought would make Hamilton better, and some key themes from their responses were:

- Cleaning up our river, lakes, and waterways so that they are swimmable
- Improving waste collections and options
- More cycleways and paths, monorail, and river taxis
- More waterparks, outdoor fitness stations, and sports parks

In a second conversation, a series of draft wellbeing outcomes were developed with the community, capturing what is important to Hamiltonians. This feedback was captured via a 'shape your city' campaign, social media and email, and community discussions.

Environmental wellbeing – It is the communities' wish for Hamilton to be a city that is sustainable, clean, and green. They would like to see us encourage sustainable living and housing, develop more green public spaces, improve the quality of the Waikato River, improve biodiversity of our gullies, and promote alternative transport options. They recognise the value of the river, the 'greenness' of our city, the trees and birdlife, and special places like Waiwhakareke Natural Heritage Park.

Social wellbeing – Our people told us that they want Hamilton to be a city that is safe, easy to get around, connected and inclusive. They would like to see us create more playgrounds/play spaces and improve cycleways and footpaths to promote alternative modes of transport, as this enables healthier and more sustainable lifestyles. Our green spaces, trees, walkways, and playgrounds are considered positive attributes that create healthy people and family activity options.

Cultural wellbeing – Our community want Hamilton to be creative, welcoming, and respectful. They'd like us to promote acceptance and have more activities, events, and arts and culture spaces. They value the support of community centres and inclusion of our diverse communities and see this as representative of how our unique and diverse culture is celebrated. The cleanliness and 'greenness' of Hamilton was also a strong theme when thinking about the city's culture.

Economic wellbeing – When considering how our economy provides opportunity, our people highlighted the importance of public transport that makes it easy to move around our city, along with other improvements in our transport links. New housing areas and a range of housing options in a city that is forward-thinking, were also valued.



We will focus on creating a low-emissions transport network and system that supports travel options such as biking, walking, and public transport. This will help to create a city that is sustainable and easy to get around.

By understanding the impacts of the low-carbon transition on our economy, we will set our city up to continue being forward-thinking and providing for economic wellbeing of our people.



Through developing Hamilton Kirikiriroa into a 20-minute city of compact, connected, and healthy neighbourhoods, we will enable healthier and more sustainable living, and our communities to use more climate-friendly modes of transport (such as walking, biking and public transport).



We recognise how important the Waikato River and the 'greenness' of our city are to our community. We will focus on restoring and regenerating our natural environment to improve resilience, and on encouraging more sustainable water use and conservation measures.

Social media

In November/December 2021, we ran a series of social media posts outlining the five key messages for climate change and the key actions from the 2021/22 Climate Change Action Plan. This series also included broad action messages for the community, for example to conserve water and use the kerbside rubbish and recycling bins properly.

The social series was seen by 112,394 people, and 6140 people engaged with the assets by watching, liking, commenting, and sharing. After viewing an ad to learn more about our climate change action, 308 people clicked through to our website. The most successful posts were our plans for biodiversity, water, and waste, which reached the most people and had the most engagements. These three issues are quite tangible for our community, so this could be why they engaged more on these topics.

We also ran a quiz on our Facebook and Instagram stories, asking the community to answer three questions about Hamilton's carbon emissions and providing incidental education about their carbon footprint. Over 200 people viewed the story to completion, and on average people got two out of three questions right.



We will continue to provide education and tools to our community on reducing emissions, to involve them in how we will achieve the emissions reduction targets set in Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa.

Key stakeholder workshops for strategy development

In early 2022, Hamilton City Council engaged Impact Hub Waikato to host a series of six, hour-long workshops with key stakeholders. The purpose of these online workshops was to gain community views on the draft vision, outcome and focus areas of Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa, to ensure that the final strategy accurately interpreted and reflected the feedback and needs of the community.

Workshop attendees represented a cross-section of the Hamilton community and included members of the <u>Voice of Hamilton Kirikiriroa</u>, and representatives of key organisations, businesses and community groups such as:

- Dairy Co-operative
- Disabled Persons Assembly
- Go Eco
- Ministry of Education (Hamilton)
- NZ Police (Hamilton)
- Tui 2000
- Waikato DHB
- Waikato Regional Council
- Waipa District Council
- WEL Networks
- Wintec

From these workshops, a report of the key themes of community feedback was produced. This report can be found on our <u>website</u>. This feedback has been incorporated into the final strategy and implementation plans, and/or for future Action Plans where appropriate.

The draft strategy was also shared with staff and representatives from Waikato District Council, University of Waikato, Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency and others through different channels so that they were able to contribute to its development.

Engagement with Maaori stakeholders for strategy development

Alongside the key stakeholder workshops, staff held engagement sessions with iwi and Maaori partners including representatives from Waikato-Tainui, Te Haa o te whenua o Kirikiriroa, Ngaati Wairere, and Te Ruunanga o Kirikiriroa. These engagements were a mix of online meetings and workshops, and review and comments on the draft strategy document.

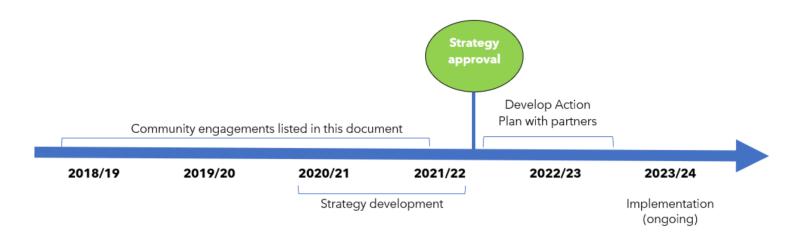
The purpose of these engagements was to gain iwi and Maaori views on the draft strategy, to ensure that the final version of Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa accurately interpreted and reflects the feedback and needs of our iwi and Maaori partners. In completing feedback, we are applying the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi in the strategy development by working in partnership with iwi and hapuu and involving them at all levels.

The feedback from these engagements were collated, then considered and incorporated into the final strategy and implementation plans, and/or noted for future Action Plans where appropriate.

FUTURE ENGAGEMENT

The timeline below shows how our community engagement for Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa does not stop once the strategy is approved; in fact, it becomes increasingly important. We will be continuing to consult the community through development of future Action Plans and implementation of the strategy once it's been approved and adopted.

An immediate focus following strategy approval is consultation with iwi, to identify what they consider to be high-risk and what priority actions we can work on together.



OUR CLIMATE FUTURE: TE PAE TAWHITI O KIRIKIRIROA

Supporting document

Setting our emissions reduction targets



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INTRODUCTION

As part of Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa, we are setting emissions reduction targets for Hamilton city and Hamilton City Council. The purpose of the city-wide targets is to measure progress towards and ensure we are successful in achieving outcome one and our overall vision of a low-carbon city. The targets for Hamilton City Council's operational emissions will keep us accountable in our organisation's own actions, and make sure we are leading the way for our community.

This document provides an overview of these targets, how they were set, and how we will measure progress towards them.

OUR EMISSIONS REDUCTION TARGETS

The targets outlined in Our Climate Future: Te Pae Tawhiti o Kirikiriroa are:

Emissions reduction targets for Hamilton City			
Year	Target	Explanation summary	
2025	Turning point – Emissions peak at the very latest	Based on latest science and advice from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), global emissions must peak by 2025 at the latest. We will ensure our city's emissions begin declining by this time, if not before.	
2030	Minimum 30% reduction	We have put a Hamilton 'lens' over national modelling and think that as a city, we can push further than the modelled national response. As such, achieving a minimum 30% reduction in our city's emissions by 2030 will mean that we are pushing ourselves to do more in our climate change response and can put pressure on central government and other partners to help us.	
2050	Minimum 82% reduction	We have put a Hamilton 'lens' over the national modelling and this has shown we need to aim for a minimum of 82% reduction in our city's emissions by 2030. This reflects our share of the national target of net zero by 2050.	

Emissions reduction targets for Hamilton City Council's operational emissions			
Year	Target	Explanation summary	
2030	50% reduction	We need to take responsibility as a Council and lead	
2040	Net zero	the community in emissions reduction. We have already started to reduce emissions and implement projects that will reduce our emissions further.	

WHY WE'VE CHOSEN THESE TARGETS

In setting these targets, we have considered Council's role in reducing emissions, the current international science, and central government's 2050 targets, first three emissions budgets and first Emissions Reduction Plan.

Our role

Hamilton City Council can have direct impacts on some emissions and influence other aspects of the city's climate change response. Examples of this include:

- Looking after and promoting the wellbeing of community this includes social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing as outlined in the Local Government Act 2002
- Making changes through our city planning, transport planning, infrastructure, rates, and key services like rubbish and recycling
- Providing education through communications and engagements, to support our community and businesses to reduce emissions.

In other areas, we will need to encourage and advocate for climate action – for example, in instances where regional solutions or responses to the changing climate are more appropriate. So, our role also includes:

- Partnerships working with other groups and organisations such as iwi, Waikato Regional Council, businesses, and community groups. For example, through our Futureproof partnership we are able to collaborate on sub-regional transport investment decisions
- Advocacy pushing for stronger action, funding support, and investments from other organisations and entities (e.g., from central government)

Whilst there are actions we can take to reduce our emissions, we will also rely on others to act if we are going to be successful in achieving our city-wide emissions reduction targets. We will regularly review what actions are being implemented and continue to advocate for stronger action if required.

Current science

The global goal is to limit warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius, as outlined in the Paris Agreement – an international agreement of which New Zealand is a signatory. The latest research from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) advised that in order to achieve this goal, global emissions must begin declining by 2025 at the very latest, then reduce by 43% by 2030 and be at net zero by 2050.

What does 'net zero' mean?

'Net zero' refers to reducing emissions as much as possible, with any remaining unavoidable emissions captured, for example through planting trees¹. 'Net zero' therefore does not mean there are no emissions produced – just that these are balanced by capturing them from the atmosphere.

Central government targets

In 2019 the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act set into law two long-term targets for Aotearoa New Zealand:

- Net zero emissions of all greenhouse gases other than biogenic methane by 2050
- 24 to 47% reduction of biogenic methane emissions by 2050

To guide them towards achieving these targets, central government uses emissions budgets – these are set amounts of emissions that are allowed to be released during a certain period, and act as 'stepping stones' towards the 2050 targets.

The Climate Change Commission were tasked with advising central government on the emission budgets and how they would be achieved. This advice was provided in June 2021. The advice included modelling of potential pathways that national emissions could follow, based on different scenarios and assumptions, to reduce from now until 2050 and achieve the targets outlined above.

In May 2022 the government announced the first three emissions budgets and the first <u>Emissions</u> <u>Reduction Plan</u>, in line with Climate Change Commissions advice. The emissions budgets are as follows:

Budget period	2022-25	2026-30	2031-35
All gases	290 Mt CO2e	305 Mt CO2e	240 Mt CO2e
Annual average	72/5 Mt CO2e	61 Mt CO2e	48 Mt CO2e
Note: Mt CO2e – megatonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent			

Table 1: Aotearoa New Zealand's first three emissions budgets, as outlined in the first Emissions Reduction Plan.

The Emissions Reduction Plan contains strategies, policies, and actions for achieving the first three emissions budgets (2022-35). There is a key focus on the role of local government, and how councils will be fundamental in achieving the national emissions reduction targets.

Aotearoa New Zealand also has a commitment to the Paris Agreement (known as the 'Nationally Determined Contribution' or 'NDC'), which is a target of 50% reduction of net emissions by 2030.

Actions outlined in central government's first Emissions Reduction Plan mean that as a country, we will not achieve these targets through domestic action alone – we will need to rely on offshore emissions reduction action as well.

TARGETS FOR HAMILTON CITY

We have used the information above to inform the emissions reduction targets set for Hamilton city.

Emissions turning point by 2025

Our emissions must peak and begin reducing by 2025 at the latest, to align with the advice from IPCC. However, this does not mean that we will allow emissions to increase until this point. We are already working towards reducing emissions across the city, as set out in the 2020/21 and 2021/22 Climate Change Action Plans¹, and recognise that these efforts need to be furthered urgently.

¹ The 2020/21 and 2021/22 Climate Change Action Plans can be found on our website.

Minimum 30% reduction by 2030

Using the modelling provided to central government by the Climate Change Commission, we have considered how Hamilton city's emissions may reduce from now until 2050. This is represented in Figure 1 (below), which shows a pathway for how Hamilton's emissions could reduce if central government applied all the advice from the Climate Change Commission. Based on this modelling, we could expect to see a reduction of 20% in Hamilton's city-wide emissions in 2030.

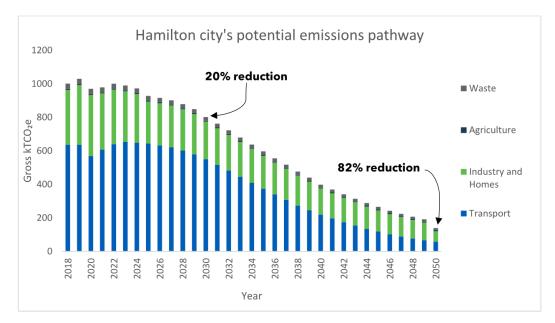


Figure 1: Hamilton city's potential emissions reduction pathways based on Climate Change Commission's advice (June 2021) to central government

Having assessed the first Emissions Reduction Plan released by central government in May 2022, we found that central government has accepted and is beginning to implement most of the advice from the Climate Change Commission. This means that the strategies, policies, and actions committed to by central government in the Emissions Reduction Plan – which include a number of actions for local governments – will get us on the journey to achieving the reductions outlined in the modelling above.

However, there are already a number of projects and initiatives planned for our city that have the potential to achieve further reduction beyond the pathway modelled in the graph above, and beyond what the government has planned in the first Emissions Reduction Plan. For example, consultation on Hamilton City Council's 2021-31 Long Term Plan showed that our community wanted more walking, biking, and scooting options to move around our city, so the Long Term Plan has \$55 million budgeted for a Biking and Micromobility Programme.

In addition, Hamilton is well positioned to make further impactful changes in our transport emissions, which are the main source of emissions in our city. Currently we have some of the highest car use rates for trip-making in the country, with 60% of all car trips in Hamilton being less than 5km (the equivalent of a 20-minute bike ride). However, the typography and geography of our city – that it's relatively flat and only approximately 7km at its widest and 13km at its longest – means that we

have a huge opportunity to better incorporate walking, biking, other micro-mobility modes, and public transport options². Whilst we have long term plans to create high quality infrastructure to support biking, we are also commencing work to implement low cost, simple to install solutions throughout the city to enable more people to safely travel by bike sooner.

We are also in the process of refreshing our transport strategy, Access Hamilton, that considers climate change and emissions in the development of our transport network and system, plus an updated Hamilton Urban Growth Strategy that considers where and how the city will grow, and how this will impact on our community's travel for work, education, and play. We also have a young population who are an integral part of creating a transport culture that is more active, and who are capable of being agents of change within the community if they are supported by the right strategies and actions by Council and its partners. These factors set us apart from the modelling provided by the Climate Change Commission and the actions in central government's first Emissions Reduction Plan, so we have therefore chosen a target that gets us further than the 20% reduction outlined in the graph above.

Finally, as an organisation, we acknowledge that while central government has set an international target in line with the Paris Agreement and limiting warming to 1.5°C, the action here in Aotearoa New Zealand is not enough to meet what the science is telling us. By setting a target for our city beyond what the modelling suggested, we will put more pressure on government to help us with achieving the emissions reductions needed.

In summary: In setting the 2030 target for Hamilton City, we applied a 'Hamilton lens' to the national modelling, considered the plans and programmes we already have in place, and the potential of our city to reduce emissions. As a result, we think we can push further than the modelling and central government suggestions, which indicates a 20% reduction by 2030. We have therefore set a target of 30% reduction for Hamilton city emissions by 2030.

Minimum 82% reduction by 2050

As before, we have used the modelling that the Climate Change Commission provided to central government and applied it to Hamilton city's emissions to calculate what reductions could be possible for Hamilton in 2050. This modelling shows that 82% reduction could be expected by 2050. Therefore, we have chosen to aim for this as a minimum; however, this target will be reassessed as the strategy is reviewed.

We have chosen to align with the modelling in this case to recognise that while our country is heading towards net zero emissions overall, this does not mean that Hamilton, as a growing city — and other urban areas across New Zealand, for that matter — must produce zero emissions. The government's 'net zero' goal will instead mean that while urban areas across the country must drastically reduce emissions as a priority, we will also need the assistance of other, more rural areas to balance and capture the remaining unavoidable emissions. The government has already signalled that although they will focus on domestic opportunities to capture these emissions, international opportunities will need to be used. As Hamilton has a limited amount of forestry available to capture emissions compared to other areas in New Zealand, we will need to further strengthen how we plan for and incorporate nature in our city and be visionary in maximising opportunities in this space.

² Hamilton-Waikato Area Mode Shift Plan, Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency. September 2020. https://www.nzta.govt.nz/assets/resources/keeping-cities-moving/Hamilton-Waikato-regional-mode-shift-plans.pdf

In summary: In setting the 2050 target for Hamilton City, we applied a 'Hamilton lens' to the national modelling and considered the realistic opportunities that we have as an urban area to capture or offset any unavoidable emissions. As set out in the guiding principles of the strategy, we will focus on taking the right action, which means we prioritise avoiding new emissions, reducing unavoidable emissions, and seeing sequestration and offsetting emissions as a last resort. Achieving a minimum 82% reduction of our city's emissions by 2050 will mean we do our share of the country's net zero target, and therefore set us on the course for a 'climate safe' future.

TARGETS FOR HAMILTON CITY COUNCIL

Setting targets for Hamilton City Council's operational emissions is key to ensuring that we remain committed to reducing our direct impact and leading the way for our community. Our organisation's emissions are different to the city-wide emissions and are more directly within our control.

50% reduction by 2030

Reducing Hamilton City Council's operational emissions by 50% by 2030 represents our organisation's share of the global 2030 goal. This means that we have taken into account that New Zealand as a developed country, and Hamilton city as an urban area, have historically contributed more to global emissions compared to other lesser-developed countries and rural areas. We must therefore have ambitious targets to correct for this and drastically reduce operational our emissions going forward.

Net zero emissions by 2040

Instead of aligning with 2050, we have chosen to set a net zero target for our operational emissions by 2040 to further commit to leading the way for our city-wide climate change response. This target further pushes our organisation to look at opportunities to work differently and to be more efficient.

In summary: In setting emissions reduction targets for Hamilton City Council's operational emissions, we have chosen to be as ambitious as we can be. This is because these emissions are directly within our control and the commitments to reducing them drastically will ensure we lead the way for our community and city to respond to climate change.

MEASURING PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGETS

This strategy sets the targets and ambition for our city and organisation, but it is the emissions reduction pathways for our city and Council that will outline how we will achieve the targets set in the strategy.

Our city's emissions reduction pathway will include the emissions impacts of all existing projects (as funded in the 2021-31 Long Term Plan), the impact of new or extended programmes, and the impact of central government initiatives. This will help to identify gaps in our emissions reduction plans and prioritise future actions and funding, to achieve the emissions reduction targets.

We will monitor our progress along the pathway annually, to ensure that projects are delivering the emissions reductions required, or take corrective action if needed. We will also complete an inventory of our emissions and produce an emissions profile for the city every three years (at a minimum), which will help to see how and what reductions are achieved in different sectors, and further inform decisions for our emissions reduction pathway process.





Establish and implement emissions reduction pathways for our city and our organisation's emissions.

We will:

- Develop an emissions reduction pathway for Hamilton City's emissions by March 2023.
- Update the emissions reduction roadmap for Hamilton City Council's emissions by December 2022.
- Report on our city's emissions for 2021/22 by June 2023.
- Report on our Council emissions for 2021/22 by December 2022.

Outcome one: By acting together, our emissions are reducing

He mahi tahi noo maatou, e mimiti haere ana ngaa paanga parakino

Develop a low-emissions transport network and system.

Council will:

 Formally adopt the updated transport strategy, Access Hamilton, by September 2022.

We will:

• Start to implement the adopted Access Hamilton strategy.

Embed circular economy principles in all activities.

We will:

 Review the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (2024-2030) to incorporate circular economy.





We will:

- Provide an emissions measurement tool for our community by March 2023.
- Partner with businesses through our Climate Accord to identify emissions reduction opportunities.
- Assess how the low-carbon transition will impact on our diverse communities by March 2023.
- Pilot a small business emissions reduction support programme by March 2023.



 Make Hamilton a centre of excellence for climate response innovation.

We will:

 Build relationships with key partners and assess where Council can support emissions reduction actions.



Outcome two: Our neighbourhoods enable low-carbon living

Maa oo tatou takiwaa noohanga e ora ai te ao waro-hakahaka

 Create a 20-minute city of compact, connected and healthy neighbourhoods, with a focus on sustainable urban intensification

Council will:

- Formally adopt the updated Hamilton Urban Growth Strategy by March 2023.
- Approve District Plan Change 12 -Growing Up for public notification in August 2022, in response to the National Policy Statement for Urban Development and the Resource Management (Enabling Housing Supply and Other Matters) Act.





 Enable low-carbon infrastructure and buildings, and opportunities for renewable energy solutions

We will:

- Identify the tools and levers available for Council by March 2023.
- Complete an inventory of current Council building efficiency by December 2022.

Support community sharing networks to reduce emissions and enable other cobenefits

We will:

 Complete a stocktake of existing community sharing networks and assess Council's role in growing these networks by March 2023.



Outcome three: Our city is ready for Hamilton's climate

Kei te rite too taatou taaone moo te aahuarangi o Kirikiriroa



We will:

- Implement the Climate Change Policy to ensure that climate change is considered in Council's decisions.
- Review climate considerations in our Asset/Activity Management Plans for consideration in the next Long Term Plan by June 2023.



Improve our community's resilience and reduce the impacts of climate change on their wellbeing

We will:

- Roll out Neighbourhood Climate Resilience Booklets, starting with a booklet for the new Peacocke suburb by June 2023.
- Begin Climate Change Risk Assessment for the city by September 2022.

Regenerate our natural environment, to improve the resilience of our gullies and other natural areas

We will:

 Continuedelivering the Nature in the City Strategy, starting with investing in Donny Park and pest control at specific locations.



Encourage sustainable measures to protect the **Waikato River**

We will:

• Start to implement our Water Sustainability Strategy, an internal strategy for Hamilton City Council that will guide our water supply activities and help us embed climate change considerations into our water planning processes.



We will:

 Collate existing climate change data and information to have 'one source of truth' for decisionmaking by June 2023. water use and conservation

Council Report

Committee: Environment Committee **Date:** 02 August 2022

Author: Sean Hickey **Authoriser:** Sean Hickey

Position: General Manager Strategy and **Position:** General Manager Strategy

Communication and Communication

Report Name: General Manager's Report

Report Status	Open

Purpose - Take

1. To inform the Environment Committee on topical issues or areas of concern which do not necessitate a separate report or decision.

Staff Recommendation - Tuutohu-aa-kaimahi

2. That the Environment Committee receives the report.

Executive Summary - Whakaraapopototanga matua

- 3. This report provides updates to Environment Committee Members on activities, actions or projects contained within the plans or strategies for which this Committee and the relevant General Manager have responsibility over and for which significant progress has been made.
- 4. The following updates are included in this report:
 - i. Climate Change Programme update;
 - ii. Communication and engagement update;
 - iii. National Climate Change Response update; and
 - iv. Resourcing.
- 5. Staff consider the matters in this report have low significance and that the recommendations comply with the Council's legal requirements.

Discussion - Matapaki

Climate Change Programme update

- 6. The Climate Change Policy was unanimously approved by Council on 30 June 2022.
- 7. Staff are currently working to include the requirements for climate impact assessments in council templates and developing the tools and guidance for staff to carry out climate impact assessments. The tools will help staff determine whether they need a climate impact assessment and carry out assessments. The Climate Change and Sustainability Team will support and advise throughout the process.

- 8. Hamilton City Council, Waikato Regional Council and Trust Waikato are funding a pilot program for small businesses and NGOs in Hamilton to respond to climate change. The aim of the program is to support small businesses to understand their emissions profile, develop a sustainability plan and take action to reduce their emissions. It will be trialled with 30 businesses across the region. Six advisors will be trained in August to deliver the program.
- 9. The program will be run in partnership with Hamilton City Council, Waikato District Council, Go Eco, and Pare Kore.

Communication and engagement update

10. A communication review is attached, covering recent media stories and communication and engagement activities.

National Climate Change Response

- 11. <u>Aotearoa New Zealand's first emissions reduction plan</u>, was released on the 16 May 2022. It contains strategies, policies and actions for achieving our first emissions budget, as required by the Climate Change Response Act 2002. It is the first statutory plan, under the Climate Change Response Act, to require the Government to act to reduce emissions right across the economy.
- 12. The Plan states that "Local government is fundamental to meeting our 2050 targets, mitigating the impacts of climate change and helping communities to adapt to climate change". Local government related infrastructure and services that will need to transition include transport, three waters, kerbside collections, and waste management, building consenting and compliance, and flood and coastal hazard management, plus planning and decision-making in relation to land use and urban form.
- 13. The Plan includes a \$4.5 billion climate emergency response fund. It states local government is responsible for funding and financing local projects, including infrastructure. Councils will need to ensure that their investments and spending align with climate objectives.
- 14. Although the plan is finalised, feedback was sought, focusing on what was required to meet the first and second emissions budgets. Hamilton City Council have made a <u>submission</u>
- 15. Councillor Sarah Thompson, and Sustainability and Climate Change Senior Advisor Cathy Kopeke attended the parliamentary submission hearing on 18 June 2022 to present the submission.
- 16. Submissions for <u>The Draft National Adaptation Plan</u> closed on the 3 June 2022. The draft plan is a response to the priority climate-related risks identified in the National Climate Change Risk Assessment, released in August 2020.
- 17. The plan sets out a proposed future work programme, indicating national priorities for the next six years. It sets out three focus actions:
 - i. Reform institutions to be fit for climate adaptation
 - ii. Provide data, guidance and information for everyone to be able to understand and manage their own climate risks
 - iii. Embed climate resilience across government strategies and policies.
- 18. The Adaptation Plan identifies that local government is on the front line in preparing for and dealing with climate impacts and risks. And highlights the priority to work with Maaori as Treaty partners.
- 19. Hamilton City Council's submission on the draft plan can be found here.

Resourcing

20. At the 10 May 2022 Environment Committee, the committee requested a report back to this committee with a plan for building the organisation's capacity over the next year to deliver on the climate strategy, policy and action plan, including any resourcing required.

- 21. As the Climate Change Policy was adopted on the 30 June 2022 and the climate change strategy has not yet been adopted, a resourcing plan for the implementation of the climate change strategy, policy and action plan has not yet been finalised.
- 22. The Climate Change and Sustainability Team consists of 2.5 FTE staff. The focus of the team for the next year will be:
 - Supporting staff to embed the Climate Change Policy into Council's decision-making processes
 - ii. Working across the Council to ensure the Climate Change Strategy is a considered within all other foundation strategies
 - iii. Promoting Hamilton City Council's position on climate change related matters to central government through submissions
 - iv. Working with key partners, stakeholders and the community to take action in line with the Climate Change Strategy.
- 23. Within the 2022-23 Annual Plan budget, adopted on 30 June 2022, \$150,000 is allocated to cover the following:
 - i. Communication of the strategy and policy to both staff and the community
 - ii. Development of the emissions reduction pathway as identified in the climate change strategy
 - iii. Development of tools and guidance to support staff in the assessment of the emissions as identified in the Climate Change Policy
 - iv. The annual Hamilton City Council greenhouse gas emission profile and the three yearly Hamilton City greenhouse gas emission assessment.
 - v. Co funding for climate change related projects such as the pilot programme mentioned above.
- 24. Wider organisational resource requirements to support climate action will be a key consideration as part of our post-reform operating model.

Financial Considerations - Whaiwhakaaro Puutea

25. This is a regular operating activity funded through the Long-Term Plan.

Legal and Policy Considerations - Whaiwhakaaro-aa-ture

26. Staff confirm that the staff recommendation complies with the Council's legal and policy requirements.

Wellbeing Considerations - Whaiwhakaaro-aa-oranga tonutanga

- 27. The purpose of Local Government changed on the 14 May 2019 to include promotion of the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of communities in the present and for the future ('the 4 wellbeings').
- 28. The subject matter of this report has been evaluated in terms of the 4 wellbeings during the process of developing this report.
- 29. The recommendations set out in this report are consistent with that purpose.

Risks - Tuuraru

30. There are no known risks associated with the decisions required for this matter.

Significance & Engagement Policy - *Kaupapa here whakahira/anganui* Significance

31. Staff have considered the key considerations under the Significance and Engagement Policy and have assessed that the matter(s) in this report has/have a low level of significance.

Engagement

32. Given the low level of significance determined, the engagement level is low. No engagement is required.

Attachments - Ngaa taapirihanga

Attachment 1 - Communication and engagement update

Communication & Engagement Summary Climate Change & Environment

May – July 2022

MEDIA STORIES

<u>DATE</u>	STORY	SUMMARY
11 May 2022	Event Alert: Nature in the	NITC launch event,
	City	biodiversity focus
13 May 2022	Stuff: Many green thumbs	Covered NITC launch event
	help launch Hamilton's	
	showpiece enviro project	
20 May 2022	Waikato Herald: Hamilton	Covered NITC launch event
	City Council kicks off Nature	
	in the City project to restore	
	native vegetation	
31 May 2022	Get involved in Hamilton's	Arbor Day event, NITC and
	biggest community planting	biodiversity focus
	day of the year	
1 June 2022	Hamilton City Council's	Increasing the emissions
	roadmap to a low-emissions	reduction target for HCC
	fleet	fleet
14 June 2022	Stuff story on possible	Increasing biodiversity in
	Waiwhakareke pestproof	Hamilton
	<u>fence</u>	
30 June 2022	Hamilton adopts Climate	Policy approved and in
	Change Policy	effect from 1 July

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Your Neighbourhood Dinsdale

18 June

Climate Change and Nature in the City stood side by side at the first Your Neighbourhood event in 18 months. We saw high engagement with both stands, and plenty of people contributing to the engagement activities of each.

Climate Change

Backed by an illustration of Hamilton as a climate-ready city, we asked people to share what we can do to make Hamilton a climate-friendly city in the future. They added their ideas to a climate change tree.

Key themes and highlights from their responses:

Transport

People want a more cycling friendly city, fewer cars, free public transport and more electric vehicles. New initiatives like a train network and electric ferry were also mentioned.

Energy

Clean energy like solar panels and hydrogen energy were put on the tree. Carbon neutral public transport and energy efficiency measures like timers for lights and appliances were also mentioned.

Biodiversity

Planting more trees was mentioned several times, with one respondent asking for more evergreens to reduce maintenance from seasonal leaf fall.

Protecting our awa

Protecting and restoring the Waikato river was mentioned several times, as well as utilising it as a carbon neutral transport option. Several people suggested rainwater collection tanks for households, with some suggesting a subsidy. Living up to our name as a 'river city' by protecting it was mentioned.

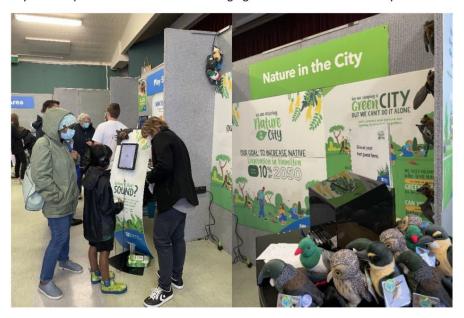
Community

People want fruit trees and community gardens, and to teach our tamariki about the environment. They also said "sharing is caring", and more refilleries like Bin Inn, community litter clean ups, and global workshops to share ideas internationally were suggested.



Nature in the City

To educate people on why it's important to restore native vegetation and biodiversity, we asked people to listen to three bird calls and guess which bird makes each sound. They could submit their answers to go in the draw to win a native bird soft toy. There was a lot of excitement about the soft toys and it sparked discussions about bringing native birds back to our city.



Elections 2022

15 July

The Stand campaign for Local Government Elections launched on 15 July. This year, the campaign focuses on issues important to Hamiltonians, as both a reason to stand and vote. Climate change is a key topic chosen for this and is depicted in posters, social media and digital screen assets.



There is also a 15 second video which will be shared during the vote phase, which features climate change as a reason to vote this election.

INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS

Climate Corner

Moorena Mail

Climate Corner is in full swing, with monthly segments hitting inboxes since April. We've shared climate change behaviours from staff, celebrated wins and encouraged participation in environmental projects.



NEW SEGMENT ALERT!

We know our organisation is full of people who are passionate about our environment and climate change. So, on the first Thursday of each month, we'll dedicate this space to sharing stories, top tips, climate challenges and wins for the environment.

First up, we want to thank everyone who attended and participated in the Waikato Climathon last weekend.
There were some incredible ideas shared! Our very own Sija Soman, Economic Development Analyst, won the Community category for her innovative project, Climate Commons.

Learn more about Sija's project

Open rate - 57.3%



SMALL ACTIONS CAN HAVE A BIG IMPACT

We want to hear from you! Have you challenged your team to bring your own (BYO) cups and cutlery to the office? Or are you using your new e-bike to cycle to work? Our actions have a big impact, and we want to celebrate your climate mahi. The Communication and Engagement team recently made a point to go outside and connect with nature on the weekend. Spending time in our beautiful gullies, or sitting by the river, it's easy to see why we need to protect nature. Nicola Prasad, Communications and Engagement Advisor, even managed to save a tree from being felled at her home, by taking some time to notice how many birds hang out there.

Share your story

Open rate - 62.5%



CHOOSING A LOW-CARBON COMMUTE

Since we've returned to the office, Our Communications and Engagement Advisors for Transport have been walking the talk with how they get to work.

Hamish decided to trial taking the bus, taking advantage of half price bus fares.

"I'm a full bus convert now, I love it. It's affordable, I don't have to find parking, and it's so nice to have someone else take the wheel. It's actually faster than driving too!"

Bex is an advocate for walking to work, and has been enjoying rugged-up walks on these cooler mornings. "Hamilton is beautiful on a frosty or foggy morning. I'm loving getting some exercise and fresh air while I walk with a hot coffee."

So team, how are you getting to work next week? Can you challenge yourself to choose a low-carbon commute?

Open rate - 61.7%



WILL YOU BECOME A CITIZEN SCIENTIST?

Aotearoa is a special place. Our only native land species are birds (and a bat, which we've deemed an honorary bird), so our biodiversity is completely unique. One of the ways we can help the climate is by measuring and monitoring the populations of our birds, both native and introduced.

The New Zealand Garden Bird Survey is happening right now, and you can take part. Find a green space (your backyard is great), and sit for an hour. Tally up the highest number of a bird species you see at one time, and submit your totals online. The survey finishes on 5 July.

Learn more

Open rate - 61.8%

SOCIAL MEDIA

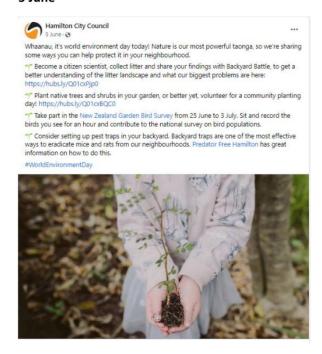
Donny Park Groundbreaking Event

17 May



World Environment Day

5 June



New Zealand Garden Bird Survey

23 June



We encouraged our community to take part in NZ Garden Bird Survey, with the intention of getting them to connect with nature and be enthusiastic about the goals of Nature in the City. We asked schools to participate, with the incentive of \$500 worth of trees for the school. We also encouraged our Facebook community to participate, to be in to win a native bird soft toy (made with recycled PET).

Other posts







Our Park Team has been working with Glenview Primary School to restore a section of Mangakootukutuku Gully. They held a planting day last week where 130 students planted 400 native plants at Sandford Park.

It was a beautiful sunny day and we were happy to have some rain over the weekend and today which the plants will love as they settle in! Check out these great pictures of the kids hard at work planting native trees.





Our friends at Go Eco are hosting a bunch of lunchtime talks about native restoration. Head down to one of our gullies and learn more about some awesome community restoration projects and why they are so important!

Book your spot: https://hubs.ly/Q019GcPv0



Boost this post to get more reach for Hamilton City Council.

Boost post



